

Clark, Dorothy

# Tombstone Epitaphs Carry Many Humorous Sayings

By DOROTHY J. CLARKE

In his play "Richard II," Shakespeare invites his readers—"Let's talk of graves, of worms and epitaphs, Make dust our paper and with rainy eyes write sorrow on the bosom of the earth. Let's choose executors and talk of wills . . ." I don't intend to make the subject of epitaphs quite so gloomy, so read along and enjoy. This one was found in an English churchyard:

"Beneath this stone Tom  
Crossfield lies,  
Who cares not now who  
laughs or cries;  
He laugh'd when sober, and  
when mellow  
Was a haram-scarum heed-  
less fellow.  
He gave to none design's  
offence,  
So, Honi soit qui mal y  
pense!"

Here's another from a Kentucky graveyard:  
"Here lies the body of Susan Lowder  
Who burst while drinking Seldlitz powder;  
If she had waited 'till it effervesced  
She wouldn't be laying here at rest."

The one most often received was the following:  
"As you are now so once was I.  
As I am now you soon shall be.  
So prepare yourself to follow me."

There are a few variations of this one, but basically they preach the same sermon.

Mrs. Reisner of Clinton, sent me one about a death caused by a banana peel:  
"It wasn't the fruit that hurt him so,  
But the skin of the thing that

But the skin of the thing that  
made him go."

Another one contributed by Mrs. Reisner told of a man who had feuded

and his wife who had feuded most of their married life. On his tombstone was carved this inscription: "On the resurrection morning, if she gets up I'll just lie still."

Basil Moore, Marshall, Ill., sent an epitaph from a tombstone in Walnut Prairie Cemetery, about one nine miles southeast of Marshall. He didn't copy the names and dates, but the rest of the inscription went like this: "On the night of . . . during an attempted robbery of her home she was struck on the head 17 times with the king bolt of a wagon, each blow cracking her skull, as a result of which she suffered temporary spells of insanity during one of which her clothing caught fire, and three days later she died at the age of . . . years . . . months and

... days." In a New England cemetery was found this terse epitaph:  
"He was pious  
Without enthusiasm."

In the same cemetery was  
this threatening inscription:  
"Faithful husband  
Thou art at rest  
Until we meet again."

Found in an 1832 local newspaper were these gems:

"Here lies my wife, without  
bed or blanket,  
But dead as a door nail,  
God be thanked."  
"John Palfreyman, who is  
buried here,  
Was aged four and twenty  
year,  
And near this place his  
mother lies,  
Likewise his father, when he  
dies."  
"Here lies a famous belly  
slave,

Whose mouth was wider  
than the grave;  
Traveller, tread lightly o'er  
his ashes,  
Should he gape, your gone,  
by gracious!"

The Wabash Courier of 1840 contained this unusual epitaph found in a New England graveyard:

"Here lies John Smith  
Who died by thunder sent  
from Heaven  
In seventeen hundred and  
seventy-seven."

I particularly enjoyed this epitaph on a large tombstone which seemed to be guarding the entrance to an old country church burying ground:

"Good Friend, for Jesus' sake, forbear  
To remove the dust that resteth here.  
Blest be the man that spares these stones,  
And curst be he that moves my bones!"

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## **Community Affairs File**

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**TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA**

*Clark, Dorothy*

# Glimpse of Bygone Days

T.H.Trib.-Star 1/23/67

## Found in Family Stories X

By DOROTHY CLARK

Several years ago, Mrs. Maud Russell Edwards, of McAlester, Okla., was asked to think back and recall some of her earliest memories of family stories. She complied with what she termed as "some incidents among the relations and old neighbors."

"An old neighbor on Clay Prairie was Andrew Mundell. His son, Jim, was killed when a 'coon tree' fell on him.

"At one time there was a corn husking at Henry Palmer's house in Sullivan County, and people came from 15 miles around. Uncle Nelson was almost the hero of the day because he wore a new pair of buckskin trousers. Some of the persons present were: the Andersons from Curry's Prairie, the McBrides from Jackson Twp. on the east side of Buss Run (or Row, as they then called it), Dan Ring's family living on the east of Buss Run.

"One time Grandfather Benjamin Siner had a corn husking. We had two big log houses which were in the middle of the east side of Farmer's Prairie, about five miles north of east of Sullivan. Stephen Cruthers bought the place afterward. At the husking were: the Andersons of Curry's Prairie, the Maxwells from Caledonia, the Walls (related in some way) from south of west from Grandfather's, and Edmund Bowles who lived to be 104 years old, and John Bowles who lived about one mile south of Sullivan. One of the Maxwells was named Letha Maxwell.

"Old Tom Puckett was an interesting old character. He lived down on the Wabash River three miles south of Terre Haute. One time he went down on the reservoir to Spring Creek, and saw a terrible big bear. He hitched his horse, cut him a gad, and twisted it like a rope, and thought he would wrap bruin over the eyes with it. After a while he made a battle on the bear, and they ran each other back and forth until each got tired out. Then he climbed a poplar tree. He had hickory clubs and pelted the bear until finally it lay down on the hillside to rest just as if it were asleep.



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"Pucket saw a shanty and went to see if they had a gun. He got a little rifle and shot the bear in the head. Old Judge Farrington used to say that he had had many a roll on that bear skin in the courthouse in Terre Haute. A Mr. Osborne, one of the editors, got hold of the story, and printed it in the Wabash Courier, and entitled it, 'Tom Puckett Against the World.'

"At one time there was a corner on salt. "Old Salt Brown" as he was called, bought all of the salt that came on the steam boats, and got a corner on the market. Hence the name "Old Salt Brown. Jacob D. Early also had a corner on salt at one time—also on hogs. Dan Ring bought a bushel of salt, paid \$2 for it, and carried it home

in a bag on his horse.

"Old Dr. Parsons, one of the first merchants in Terre Haute, and Sam and John Crawford, used to come to Eli St. Clair's in Sullivan County to go hunting with him. They would hunt awhile, and then come in with deer and bear meat, and Mrs. Fanny Siner St. Clair would cook it for them, also making great stacks of pancakes which she would lay before them with butter and honey. They always had from 30 to 40 hives of bees. The St. Clair children would remember the occasions.

"Old Michael Ring had a large family of girls married and gone, and one son, Dan. One time Michael was out hunting when he saw a bear's

nest in the fork of a great tree which had fallen in a low place. Mr. Ring climbed up close to see if she was there. He saw her move, took deliberate aim and fired, killing her. There were two cubs, on one of which she fell, crippling it. He took the other one home, fed him milk and named him Jack.

#### Gentle Bear Cub

"Uncle Ben St. Clair said he had seen Jack many times. He was so gentle that women with young babies would hold them down and let Jack lick their feet. They kept him until he got to be a big bear. One day Jack and Old Mr. Ring were out in the field plowing with an old-fashioned

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shovel plow. There was a young poplar tree standing in the field with one big limb, and Jack climbed out on the limb and went to sleep. I wish this bear story ended here, but it don't. They finally sold the bear for \$30 to an old man named Barbour. He said he would have to go home before he took him and build a strong wagon box to move him in. After a while here came a big strong wagon for old Jack. They pushed the wagon to the door, let old Jack in, and then locked up the wagon. Then old Michael Ring commenced to weep because he had sold his old playmate.

"Even that is not the end, nor the worst that happened. They took Jack to Louisville, Kentucky, and advertised that there would be a big dog and bear fight on a certain day, and they turned in 200 dogs on him. He knocked them right and left, but they afterward killed the bear and the meat was sold. This seemed worse than the Mexican bull fights, because the bear was an old pet.

"There used to be an old double log house at the foot of Dunham Hill which was supposed to be haunted. It was moved up on the Seventh Street Road, and I suppose they thought the "hants" had been left behind. At any rate, Aunt Lavina St. Clair, Grandpa Eli's oldest daughter, lived there for a while. She complained that a middle door came open every night, no matter how carefully it was shut.

"My grandmother, Vynthie St. Clair Carico, was born in Sullivan County, and married near Terre Haute. In 1855, she went to Minnesota with her three children, her father, Eli St. Clair, and others. They took up land near Cannon Falls, but in 1859 they returned to Indiana, and in the following year, 1860, they moved to Illinois, on the day that Lincoln was elected the first time.

A man by the name of Coombs came down into the country teaching spiritualism. Grandma's son, Henry Clay Carico, a son of Uncle Nelson St. Clair, Sylvester, and some other boys in the neighborhood were attending a night singing school at the same time. They decided to have some fun, and pretending to be very frightened, they ran all the way home and reported that they had seen John Brown's ghost. Coombs thought he had brought the ghost to earth, and wrote an account of it for the newspapers. Then Uncle Nelson told

the truth of the matter, and it killed spiritualism in the neighborhood."

Mrs. Edwards concludes her account with these sentiments: "These are some of the little happenings told to me by the elder member of the family. Probably there were many more, had I begun earlier to collect them. But they give a touch of the life of bygone years, into which we can only peep now and then. Like the fleeting reflections in a mirror these lives are gone, as ours will be in a generation or so. Let's be worthy of our good ancestors."

"In the winter of 1859 she was at the home of her brother, Nelson St. Clair, about six miles south of Terre Haute.

Earliest  
Memories  
Family  
Stories

# Many Genealogical Facts In Tombstone Order Book

T. H. Trib. Stake 6/2/68

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

In the Museum Library of the Vigo County Historical Society, 1411 S. 6th St., Terre Haute, Ind., is a large leather-bound ledger book that has been used for several purposes over the years. Given to the museum by Miss Helen Sawyer, it was believed to have been originally owned by the Swafford family.

Some of the earliest entries were made in reference to steamboat enterprises on the Wabash River. Later entries refer to debits and credits of a businessman, but most interesting of all entries are those for tombstones ordered from October, 1865, to the fall of 1866.

The genealogical information copied from these orders adds much to the knowledge of the families in the Wabash Valley over 100 years ago.

Marble monuments and grave markers were cut, inscriptions chiseled, delivered in a horse and wagon sometimes many miles away, and set up in cemeteries from Clay County east to Clark County, Illinois, west; from Parke and Vermillion counties north to Sullivan County south.

Two stonemasons, named Bishop and Pratt, were credited with lettering the tombstones. Used in selecting styles, carvings, lettering, verses, etc., was "Darlings



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Design Book." The choices were referred to by number.

Both American and Italian marble were used, but the latter was more expensive. Limestone was used in the less expensive tombstones and in bases for the marble monuments.

According to the Terre Haute City Directory (1860-1861) there were three marble dealers located here: Grace Martin, on Ohio between 1st and 2nd Sts.; J. M. Walter, at 18 S. 4th St., and William Wagner, 54 S. Market St.

The 1863 directory listed the above-mentioned Grace Martin marble yard; Mr. Lamoreux's marble yard, and J. M. Walter at 8th and Eagle Sts.

Unfortunately, a city directory for the 1865-1866 years could not be found, so the marble dealers of the exact time period of the tombstone

orders is not known.

By 1868-1869 two more marble yards were listed: Walter Eppinghouse & Co., and Charles E. and H. Arnold, on S. 4th between Main and Ohio Sts.

Nowhere could any mention of the stone cutters, Bishop and Pratt, be found in the city directories.

It is hoped that someone using this information in the future will be able to clear up the exact location of this particular marble dealer and his workmen.

Typed copies of this compilation complete with index have been placed with the DAR Library in Washington, D. C., the Genealogy Division of the Indiana State Library in Indianapolis, and the Museum Library here in Terre Haute.

Following are a few tombstone orders taken at random from the pages of the old ledger to show the wealth of genealogical information to be found in the entire collection.

John Carr ordered a tombstone with the following inscription to be delivered to the Second Prairie Creek Graveyard: "M. C. Carr, Born April 18th, 1816; Died May 4th, 1860; Aged 44 yr 16 dys."

Mrs. James Drake, Fairbanks, Ind., ordered this inscription: "In memory of James Drake, Born May 9th, 1778; Died June 12th, 1865; Aged 87 yrs 1 m 3 dys."

F. M. Brown, Livingston, Clark County, Illinois, ordered the following for his young wife: "Frances E. Brown, wife of F. M. Brown. Died Oct. 2nd, 1865, Aged 17 yrs 27 ds."

Mrs. Josiah Adams and Dr. Goodwin ordered identical stones complete with carved flags for their Civil War dead; one was for 22-year-old Josiah Adams, who died at Greenville, Alabama; the other for Clarke B. Goodwin, aged 25 years, who died at Nashville, Tenn. These tombstones were delivered to the Jack Oak Graveyard, Lamot Prairie, between Hutsonville and Palestine, Ill.

So many small children died in those days, and the stone cutter was called on frequently to carve: "We all do weep and mourn when from the Mother's fold one little Lamb is gone."

Another favorite inscription was: "This lovely bud so young and fair, Is gone to Heaven to blossom there."

Surprisingly enough, only one order was included in this collection for the most common inscription of all, the one

found in nearly every early graveyard:

"Remember friends as you pass by.  
As you are now so once was I  
As I am now so you must be  
Prepare for death and follow me."

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Clark, Dorothy

# Old Epitaphs Reveal More Than Vital Statistics Do

T.H. TRIB-STAR 11/3/68  
By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Last year the Sunday column on epitaphs caused more interest, triggered many telephone calls and much fan mail. If my readers enjoy this topic, I'll be only too happy to share some of the better epitaphs received.

This gem was found in an old southern cemetery in the State of Georgia:

"Oh be he dead  
And am he gone  
And is I left here all alone  
Oh cruel fate  
Thou beest unkind  
To take he fore  
And leave I hind."  
Tombstone inscriptions frequently tell more than the age of the deceased. For instance:  
"Some have children, some have none;  
Here lies the mother of twenty-one."  
This epitaph tells much more than the vital statistics:  
"Here lies my dear wife, a sad slattern and shrew;  
If I said I regretted her, I



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should lie too."

Frequently the epitaph tells personality traits such as talkativeness: "Here snug in grave my wife doth lie, Now she's at rest, and so am I."

This one gives the cause of death:

"This little hero that lies here Was conquer'd by the diarrheer." It also tells us the stone cutter needed a dictionary!

Other epitaphs of a kinder nature include: "She always made home happy," and "Here lies the wife of Simon Stokes,

Who liver and died—like other folks."

Here is still another version of a classic tombstone inscription:

"Time was I stood where thou dost now.

And view'd the dead, as thou dost me;  
Ere long thou'l be as low as I,  
And others stand and look on thee."

Epitaphs doubtless originated from a longing for immortality. Their invention is attributed to the scholars of Linus, the Theban poet, who flourished about 2,700 BC, and being unhappily slain, his scholars lamented the loss of their master in a particular kind of mournful verses, called from him Aelinum, and afterwards Epitaphia, because they were recited and sung at burials and engraved upon sepulchres.

Monuments and inscriptions form the cementing link between the past, the present and the future. They are considered as tributes of surviving relatives and friends who desire to preserve a name from oblivion.

The professional epitaph, the practice of using the deceased person's trade or profession as a basic for rhyme, has completely disappeared, and can only be found in the very old graveyards.

For instance, one epitaph found on a baker's tombstone reads:

"Here lies Dick, a baker by trade,  
Who was always in business praised;  
And here snug he lies, in his oven, 'tis said,  
In hopes that his bread may be raised."

This terse epitaph was found on the marble marker at the grave of a celebrated cook: "Peace to his hashes."

And this one explains the former occupation of the departed one:

"Here lies a man who dyed of wool great store,  
One day he died himself, and dyed no more."

An old bachelor commissioned the stone cutter to inscribe this epitaph on his tombstone:

"At threescore winters' end  
I died,  
A cheerless being, sole and sad;  
The nuptial knot I never tied,  
And wish my father never had."

This curious epitaph was copied from the San Diego Herald: "Here lies the body of Jeems Humbrick who was accidentally shot on the bank of the pacus river by a young man. He was accidentally shot with one of the large colt's revolver with no stopper for the cock to rest on, it was on one of the old fashion kind brass mounted and of such is the kingdom of heaven."

It is interesting to note that the widow was living with her fourth husband when she or-

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dered the following inscription: "This turf has drunk a widow's tear,  
Three of her husbands slumber here."

I enjoyed reading this epitaph:

"An honest fellow here is laid,  
His debts in full he always paid;  
And, what's more strange, the neighbors tell us  
He brought back borrow'd umbrellas."

And this epitaph tells of one of the patient stone cutters:

"Here lies the body of Frank Raid,  
Parish clerk, and gravestone cutter;  
And this is writ to let you know,  
What Frank for others used to do,  
Is now for Frank done by another."

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*Clark, Dorothy Jane*

# Drive Underway to Save German-American Records

T-STAR 1-24-70

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Deep concern has been expressed for all scholars in the field of German-American literary and cultural studies over the fate of valuable research materials which are likely to be lost forever unless immediate steps are taken for their preservation.

With the generous support of the Max Kade Foundation, New York, there has now been established at the University of Kansas a German-American Document And Research Center, to collect and preserve German-American literary and cultural material, particularly from the midwestern region of this country.

The original suggestion for such a center was made in the Bibliography "Of German Culture In America To 1940," compiled by Professors Henry A. Pochman and Arthur R. Schultz, and itself a record of earlier work in the field.

Researchers in German-American studies have found that libraries, German-American clubs, religious organizations, and individuals are frequently unable or unwilling to preserve and to house materials which are not of priority importance to their collections. Some of the libraries with the best holdings in this field of interest, in fact, are prevented by lack of funds from cataloguing and organizing their collections so as to make them adequately accessible.

At the same time, interest in German-American studies has increased steadily: the large number of dissertations in this field presently in progress was mentioned at a recent meeting of the Modern Language Association of America.

Recognizing the danger that many important German-American publications may be lost if action is not taken, the Max Kade Research Center in cooperation with other organizations is endeavoring to procure such materials and to provide adequate services for housing, cataloguing and making them accessible to scholars through the facilities of the recently opened Kenneth Spencer Research Library at the University of Kansas.

It is hoped that owners of German-American books, manuscripts, magazines, newspapers, annuals, calendars, etc., will be willing to present them to the center, or if necessary to sell them. In particular, libraries, historical societies, German-American clubs and other groups which for lack of space, or because of other priorities, wish to dispose of their German-American material, are encouraged to turn them over to the Max Kade Research Center. Although their funds are limited, they would be glad to pay packing and shipping expenses.



Dorothy Clark

#### Several Papers

In 1880 Beckwith stated in his history of Vigo and Parke counties that at that time there were eight newspapers in Terre Haute, three of which were dailies; two of these also published weekly editions; four were weekly papers; one was issued as a monthly, and one was printed in German for the many German language speaking citizens of the community.

In addition to the one local German language paper, several other German newspapers were printed here for distribution in other cities and to subscribers all over the United States.

As early as 1864, Rev. Father Mari called a meeting of German Catholics to establish St. Benedict's Church,

which was built and consecrated in 1865.

The Reformed German Church was organized here in October, 1857, with a congregation of seven families.

The German Evangelical Lutheran congregation came into existence in 1846. A. H.

Continued On Page 5, Col. 7.

Luken, a German Lutheran teacher, arrived in Terre Haute and with him 22 persons, most of them young people from East Frisia, the most northwest county of the German empire. They held services and in 1848, together with a few Germans who had settled in Terre Haute before they came, organized a congregation called United Lutheran and Reformed Congregation. In 1858, the Lutherans separated themselves from this body and formed a congregation by themselves, known as the German Evangelical Lutheran Congregation. Their church was at the northwest corner of Fourth and Swan streets. Their parochial school housed fifty to sixty students who spoke only the German language.

The "Terre Haute Banner", a German language newspaper, was established August 20, 1870, by Adolph Fabricius. He published it until his death in Feb. 1874, when it was sold to Emil Hirschburg and Charles Lustig. The former withdrew from the paper in 1875, and was succeeded by John Kuppenheimer, who had established the "Indiana Post," which was then consolidated with the "Banner."

On March 1, 1876, the paper was purchased by P. Gfroerer,

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who at once issued a daily Republican paper, which continued as a daily until Jan. 1, 1877, when it was changed to a tri-weekly.

The weekly Banner had been started as a Republican paper April 1, 1876, by Mr. Gfroerer. The mutations of the German papers were frequent. At times there was a Republican and Democratic organ in full blast; and for a while, one man edited the papers for both parties.

The "Terre Haute Journal," daily and weekly German newspapers, was founded in 1883 by J. E. Wolff. Republican in politics, it was a large daily and weekly, and was one of our prominent and firmly established institutions. This was a tri-weekly paper, and so continued until June 17, 1889, when it was made daily and weekly. Until Mr. Wolff took hold, German papers here had a rather precarious existence.

Many Americans, both those of German descent and others who own German-American material, may be unaware of the research value. Time is of the essence.

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CLARK, DOROTHY J. T-STAR 6/28/70

# Epitaphs in Old Cemeteries Reveal Much of Folklore

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

There's a poem by Iris G. Oster entitled "Old Cemeteries" which goes like this:

"Mid crumbling walls,  
and fallen slab,  
Wild flower and vine,  
obscuring drab dank vaults,  
Keeping fragrant vigilance,  
about each tomb;  
The resting place of those  
whose erstwhile voice  
Now silenced in repose  
Through Eternity's eventide.  
Prince and pauper, now abide  
In mouldering earth side by side  
Tho' monuments are dark  
Their deeds will live on History's page."

Those of us who enjoy meandering through old cemeteries can appreciate history more than those who avoid all thoughts of death which must necessarily go along with generations of ancestors. It's doubly sad when no relatives arrive to save the occasion of a funeral. Chances are the family tree has been so effectively pruned by childless marriage, chronic spinsterism, ill choice of occupation in several wars, and a hereditary susceptibility to heart disease that the recently deceased had been for some time the last twig on the dead trunk of his ancestry.

I've often paused to examine a churchyard more closely and noticed there were very few new burials in it. Most of the stones commemo-

rated Victorian burials, and earlier ones, half defaced by lichen and time.

Harry O. Storm, former Clay City postmaster, told of a tombstone in the Maple Grove Cemetery, located some two miles northwest of Clay City. It was claimed by those who should know that the first person buried in this cemetery was Dora (Spellbring) White, the wife of Paris White. Her tombstone is inscribed: "Died July 5, 1905." After this first burial it was remarked in the community how hard it would be for the husband to leave his wife totally alone and the only person then in the entire cemetery which had



Dorothy Clark

The old stones were attractive. Some of them were upright slabs with cherubs on the tops with wreaths round them. I've wandered around, looking at the fading inscriptions, noting the ages, and marvelled at the high death rate of infants, deeply regretted, and the eloquent verses of pious hopes. I've wondered if any of the old families still lived in the vicinity of the old graveyard. They'd left off being buried here, apparently, for there were no tombstone inscriptions later than 1895.

In one old churchyard the ancient tombstones leaned drunkenly or confidingly (according to your taste) toward one another, many so old that moss had obscured the original names and dates.

Knowing my interest in curious epitaphs, one reader sent in this unusual one: "If I was so soon done for, I wonder why I began for" which was sound carved on the tiny marker for a child's grave."

just been platted and opened a short time before.

#### Tombstones Misleading

A stranger to the community would have supposed the first burial would have been that of "Atchison Binder 1902-1904" but they would be very

mistaken. To show that tombstones are misleading in historical research, I would like to point out that stone carvers were frequently notorious spellers and were given incorrect information. After re-

search it was learned that the child who died was Ethison Bender. The cause of death was diphtheria and he was buried in the Greenwell Cemetery first. At a later date the remains were moved to the Maple Grove Cemetery and reburied on the Jesse Allee lot where it now rests in the northeast corner of the cemetery. This explains why his tombstone with the death date of 1904 does not mark the grave of the first burial in that cemetery.

I believe that the poem "Ownership" from "A Single Focus" by James Hearst best tells the sad tale of our rapidly disappearing old family graveyards:

"Old neighbors of my people sleep beneath this knoll who hungered in their bones for earth the owner owns, the ample fields plowed over is their warm bed cover. The church steeple is down and vines grow up again, worship has moved to town and left this plot to men, markers along the fence

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make no more pretense  
to identify the claims  
asserted once by names.  
Neat in stacks are pressed  
the crumbling half-blind  
stones,  
since by land possessed  
no longer need old bones  
be honored row by row.

The farmer with his plow  
unroofs each sunken mound  
as if folk lying here  
had asked for rain and air.  
Indentured to the ground  
they worked so hard to keep  
when underneath their boots  
they serve now in their  
sleep.

There through oats and  
clover  
the winds go nosing over  
boundaries the birds  
neglect,  
where grasses genuflect  
the owners reap their faith  
in a harvest bones bequeath,  
and chosen by the roots  
they make their presence  
seen  
in the meadows darker  
green."

There are records of some  
120 cemeteries, private bury-  
ing grounds, churchyards and  
public graveyards in Vigo  
County. Many have been com-  
pletely plowed over and no  
trace can be found. Some are

losing ground from fences be-  
ing destroyed so grazing stock  
can rub against the old tomb-  
stones and knock them down.  
The next step is for some tidy  
farmer to drag the fallen  
slabs to some nearby fence  
corner or gully that needs  
filling, and the final step is  
to plow the fallow ground,  
completely obliterating all  
traces of early burials. Some  
one has to care before ceme-  
teries can be protected and  
preserved.

# Genealogical Tree Better With Ancestral Pruning

12/20/1970  
*Oril Star* By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Pride of ancestry is often a very respectable sentiment. Moreover, there is a certain implied modesty in it which we should not miss. It is as much to say, "I am of no great consequence myself; all that I am is due to my forbears."

It is true that we sometimes carry an unfair reflection of people who are dead, and so cannot rise to defend themselves. But it is never intended in that sense. I observe that those who indulge in this pride exercise the right of choice—sometimes, perhaps, the power of invention. They drop out of the account those lineal forbears who were of no great repute.

The genealogical tree, like other trees, is all the better for a little pruning. It is also improved by some grafting in of scions from a better stock. Many ancestral biographies are historical romances, more or less. But what of that? Journalistic embellishment has its place within certain limits.

Pride of ancestry is a very respectable sentiment — respectable for its very age, if nothing else. Burke said, "People will not look forward to posterity who never look backward to their ancestors." But will it benefit posterity to keep a record of the black sheep in the flock, or to pass on in a faithful tradition all the family scandals?

Some family historians (usually self-appointed) believe there is a right to forget that goes along with the duty to remember. So great an authority as St. Paul maintains that right without apology, when he says, "Forgetting the things that are behind, and reaching forth unto the things which are before." And it was in the interest of posterity that he renounced his ancient lineage.

And there is the familiar saying that "Blood will tell," but will it tell much that is worth knowing? It may indeed let out some family secrets that would be better kept sub rosa. Like all gossips, this tattling blood may find it extremely difficult to keep within the bounds of fact.

In many family histories we find the phrase, "He came of poor but honest parents." Why the but? It would be more to the point to say, "He came of rich but honest parents."



DOROTHY J.  
CLARK

Many people believe there is not much in this doctrine of heredity, as commonly understood. It is often an impertinence, and a superstition only partly false. The ancestry of Abraham Lincoln has been carefully traced from the immigrant who settled at Hingham, Mass., early in the 17th century, and following it in its restless migrations, down to Monmouth County, N.J., across into Pennsylvania, down into the Valley of Virginia, and finally over the mountains into Kentucky.

There isn't a thing in it all that in the least accounts for Abraham Lincoln. His biographers have never been able to point to the ancestor responsible for the gene which made Abraham Lincoln the genius that he was to become in later years.

#### Questionable Ancestry

Australia is the one country where pride of ancestry has the least place, and where it is not considered good form to inquire about one's grandfather. Because Australia got its start in the modern world as a penal colony.

Many Australians, however, have had the same belief about our United States. They assume that our country had the same origin as theirs, and when you think about it, it is probably true that many of the original American settlers left their country for their country's good. Many writers have shown us that the vices of colonial New England suggest that even that home of the elect was not wholly settled by ministers and deacons.

At the very least it must be true that those who were comfortable and honored in

the old world did not come to the new. "Not many great, not many noble" were called to the great adventure of emigration. The stream of immigration that poured through Ellis Island bore out this inference.

Considering the respect accorded Holy Scripture in Puritan New England, it is remarkable that there was any research work done on the subject of genealogy, for St. Paul had dismissed the subject with a flick of his left hand. In the Epistle to Titus

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# Dorothy Clark'

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had he not written (iii 9): "But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law, for they are unprofitable and vain"? And in the First Epistle to Timothy (i 4) he had, in similar vein, admonished: "Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith." But even though the Apostle equated genealogies with foolish questions, contentions, and fables, the early chroniclers of New England towns gave careful attention to the people that had settled them.

During the past century and a quarter, great numbers of family histories and genealogies have been published to supplement the record of towns and colleges. These have almost invariably been the result of some strong personal enthusiasm, oblivious of lavish expenditure of time. Few families stay so consistently in one place and keep such adequate records that it is easy to trace their members through many generations. The compiler must either have the ability and leisure to do the work himself, or the funds to hire a professional to do it for him.

The impetus to preserve the record of places and people has suffered from growth of population, ease of transportation, and the speed with which cities swallow up adjacent communities, obliterate landmarks and transform natural features of the landscape. As people leave land that had long belonged to them, move to cities, or work for great companies that transfer them from Minnesota to California to Texas to New Jersey at the drop of a hat, the coherence of families becomes blurred. Moreover the "population explosion" makes the task of a family historian unenviable.

Let this be a warning to anyone who contemplates bringing up to date his family records, but also an invitation to become involved in a fascinating and worthwhile hobby which will keep his mind active for the rest of his days!

lump sugar. Keep it corked. Water house plants with one teaspoon of this solution to three quarts of warm water."

Finally, here is a "Mixed Recipe." A June bride asked her husband to copy the radio recipe one morning. The husband did his best, but got two stations at once. One was broadcasting the morning exercises, and the other the recipe. This is what he got:

"Hands on hips, place one cup of flour on the shoulders, raise knee and depress toes and wash thoroughly in one-half cup of milk. In four counts raise and lower the

legs and wash two hard boiled eggs in a sieve; repeat six times. Inhale one-half teaspoon of baking powder and one cup of flour. Breath naturally and exhale and sift. ATTENTION: Jump to a squatting position and bend white of egg backward and forward over head, and in four counts make a stiff dough that will stretch at the waist. Lie flat on the floor and roll into marble the size of a walnut. Hop to a standstill and boil in water but do not boil in a gallop afterwards. In ten minutes remove from fire and dry with

a towel. Breath naturally and dress in warm flannels and serve with fish soup."

I repeat, I collect old, unusual recipes, so send them along please!

Dorothy Clarke Trib.-Star

# Family Heirlooms Hold Hidden Keys to Identity

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Sooner or later, practically everybody falls heir to a number of articles of certain or uncertain age and value. Some give them a good home for family and sentimental reasons, others cherish them for their antique value, others use them in some new decorating fashion, and still others wonder what to do with them.

Many young people sell off an estate of a deceased elder relative, only to wish they had some of the antique items back again when they're furnishing a home. New homes and new furniture are fine, but family heirlooms and some antique furniture pieces give a home character and personality.

Antique dealers chortle over the person who comes in to buy old portraits when they know she will hang them in a place of honor and call them ancestors. In these days of quick-cooked foods, it's only logical for some persons to try to acquire "instant" ancestors!

In the Victorian period, custom furniture shops and factories often made furniture in sets — parlor, dining room, and bedroom. The number of pieces in a parlor set ranged from a sofa, armchair, a lady chair with the low small arms that hoop skirts required, and four side chairs, to the more extensive kind that included a matching center table with a cartouche-shaped white marble top, an ottoman of the same height and size as the seat of the large armchair, a whatnot, and a small slant-front desk.

It is rather unusual to find one of these sets complete today. Some were simple, some were heavily carved, and most were finger-molded in their wood framework.

Slippery, prickly hair-cloth was the original upholstery for ninety per cent of the early Victorian furniture made in the United States. It was very long-wearing. The most effective material for re-upholstering such furniture is a plain color satin, preferably red or old gold.

The ottoman was considered the proper place for well-behaved children of the nineteenth century to sit in the presence of their elders.

How many people have inherited an old "pie cupboard" and sold it before realizing its usefulness and value?

An early 19th century piece of kitchen furniture, it had perforated tin panels in the doors and sides. Known as a safe throughout the Mid-west and parts of the South, where it was popular from the early 1800's to as late as 1870, it was originally used for storing food.



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Sometimes they held pans of milk in a cool place; some times they held the weekly baking of bread, cake and pies; still another use was for the keeping of vegetables and fruits which needed air circulation. The perforated tin panels were not only decorative but the idea went back to the 14th century when pierced metal lantern first appeared in Europe. The earliest were of brass or copper; then came sheet iron or tin.

In the early 19th century, the tinsmith designed and stamped tin sheets in intricate patterns for use in lanterns and foot stoves. He laid the tin sheets on a bed of lead, sand, soft wood, or other suitable substances. Then he traced his pattern,

put his dies in position and struck them with a hammer, piercing the tin along the lines of the design. Half moon, rising sun, cathedral and sunburst designs were favorite patterns.

Pierced designs in old food safes showed even greater

variety. Some had rising sun motifs, others had an urn and floral pattern. The heart or six-pointed star indicated Pennsylvania Dutch origin. Today it is the beauty of the pierced tin work that makes

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them so desirable.

Now the food safes no longer stand in the kitchen but, cleaned and refinished, have other uses. Collectors of primitive items such as wooden cooking utensils and implements, powder horns or early slipware dishes use them as display cabinets for their treasures.

Some people like them as cupboards for bed linen. They also fit well in a game room. One was reported used as a convenient wine cellar.

Sometimes a person can't say why they cherish an antique item. I'm very fond of a pair of Staffordshire spaniels acquired several years ago.

During Early Victorian years — about 1830 to 1860 — spaniels were very fashionable as lap dogs and most Staffordshire spaniels were produced during these years. They were always modeled in a sitting position, in facing pairs in a somewhat artificial

pose with the heads turned at right angles to the body. There is also an almost human expression of their faces, which accounts for much of their charm and appeal to today's collectors.

In all sizes from miniatures not over an inch high to practically life-sized ones as much as 30 inches tall, the spaniels were not marked, so it is impossible to identify them further than to say they are Staffordshire, made sometime between 1800 and 1860.

The large-sized ones without bases were intended as mantel ornaments or for tops of tall furniture. My pair are 15 inches tall, white with black markings and gold collars and chains. The one with the "sweetest" expression is identified as the girl dog, the more belligerent looking one we call the boy dog. Others come in shades of brown and rust markings on white. All have the gold chains dangling around their necks. They have become a part of our family, and I hope will become family heirlooms for the next generation.

Clark, Dorothy General Info. File

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# Scotch-Irish Blood Has Dominated White House

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Last year's postal strike in Great Britain held up delivery of a new book, "American Presidents of Ulster Descent," written by George McBride, which I had ordered from County Antrim, North Ireland. The title intrigued me.

The Scotch-Irish rose to fame in all walks of American life. As pioneers and frontiersmen they played a really decisive part in shaping early American history. They became noted soldiers, state governors, bankers, writers, churchmen, lawyers, teachers and inventors, but the most significant fact is their complete dominance of the Presidency. They occupied the White House for 56 of the 92 years between the start of Andrew Jackson's term of office and the close of Woodrow Wilson's.

To date about one-third of the total number of Presidents are of Ulster descent including the only three "First Generation" Americans ever to achieve such a high office, Andrew Jackson, James Buchanan and Chester Alan Arthur, whose fathers were born in Ulster.

James Knox Polk, Andrew Johnson, Ulysses Simpson Grant, Stephen Grover Cleveland, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt and Thomas Woodrow Wilson complete the list of eleven presidents of Ulster descent.

Presidents John Adams, John Quincy Adams and James Monroe are reputed to have family links with Ulster, but these are rather tenuous.

President Harry S. Truman and Dwight D. Eisenhower claimed to have Scotch-Irish blood in their veins.

President John F. Kennedy's ancestors came from Dungantown, County Wexford, in the Republic of Ireland.

The term "Scotch-Irish" is an Americanism generally unknown in Scotland and Ireland, and rarely used by British historians. In American usage it refers to people of Scottish descent who, having lived for a time in the north of Ireland, migrated in considerable numbers to the American colonies in the 18th century.

Between 1730 and 1770 more than half the Presbyterian population of Ulster came to America, where it formed more than one-sixth part of our entire population at the time of the Declaration of Independence.

The site of the ancestral homestead of Andrew Jackson is at Boneybefore, one mile north of Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim, and is marked with a plaque.

James Knox Polk's ancestry to the year 1440 to Sir Robert migrated to Somerset County, Maryland, around 1690.

James Buchanan was descended from the ancient clan name of McAuslan. The President's father, James Russel Buchanan, emigrated to Philadelphia from Co. Donegal in the year 1783 when he was twenty-one years old. President Buchanan once said: "My Ulster blood is a priceless heritage and I can never be too grateful to the grandparents from whom I

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derived it."

The exact location of the ancestral homestead of Andrew Johnson has not been established. The 17th President was born at Raleigh, N.C., the son of Jacob and Mary McDonough Johnson, a grandson of Andrew Johnson, who, tired of living in poverty, had emigrated about 1750.

The ancestral homestead of Ulysses Simpson Grant is located at Dergina, near Ballygawley, Co. Tyrone, and is presently occupied by Nurse Isobel Simpson, directly descended from the President's mother, Hannah Simpson. Her grandfather John Simpson, emigrated to America sometime between 1760 and 1763, settling in Pennsylvania.

The single-story ancestral cottage of Chester Alan Arthur is located at Gourlay's Hill, The Dreen, Cullybackey, near Ballymena, Co. Antrim. It has been restored and furnished in a style of the period and was first opened to the public in 1968. It overlooks the delightful Valley of the River Maine. It was from this cottage that the President's grandfather, Alan, also referred to as Gavin Arthur, together with his wife and son, William, emigrated in 1816.

The Arthurs were apparently of substantial farmer class, coming "of a stock which made for eminence" because they were able to send their son, William, later to become the father of the 21st President, to college in Belfast before he emigrated in 1814, at the age of eighteen. At the time of his marriage he was a teacher, but later became a Baptist minister.

Stephen Grover Cleveland was of Scotch-Irish descent on his mother's side. She was Ann Neal, daughter of Abner Neal, a merchant born in Co. Antrim and who had emigrated late in the 18th century. He was apparently driven from Ulster because of his political activities and in America he became a very successful seller and publisher of law books.

Benjamin Harrison's mother, Elizabeth F. Irwin, was descended from two great-grandfathers from Ulster, namely James Irwin and William McDowell. Both emigrated to America, Irwin before 1750, and McDowell in 1718.

The ancestral homestead of William McKinley is located at Conagher's Farm, Dervock, near Ballymoney, Co. Antrim. His ancestors date back to 16th century Scotland. The earliest member of the family to emigrate appears to have been James McKinley in 1712. He was the President's great-great grandfather.

Theodore Roosevelt's mother, Martha Bulloch, was of Scotch-Irish and Huguenot stock from Co. Antrim. The exact location of the ancestral homestead has not been established.

The ancestral homestead of the family of Thomas Woodrow Wilson is located at Dergalt, three miles from Strabane, (Co.) Tyrone. His grandfather, James Wilson, emigrated in 1807. In a speech given to a New England Society in 1896 he stated: "I am not of your blood. I am not a Virginia Cavalier. But I come from as good blood as yours, in some respects better, because the Irish-Scots, although they are just as much in earnest as you are, have a little bit more gaiety and more elasticity than you have. We believe as sincerely as you do that we really made this country."

# Columnist's Mailbag Has Collection of Puzzles

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

IS FEB 18 1973

It's difficult to help people when their information is so vague. Sometimes they aren't even sure of their ancestor's name. Such a letter came from Esterville, Iowa. "I am seeking information on my great-grandfather who was killed by a bank robber in Terre Haute. His name was Parker, or possibly Howard. I am also uncertain of the date, anywhere from 1840 to much later." This continues to be a puzzle. Does anyone know of this fatal shooting by a bank robber?

Another letter from Stockton, Calif., told of a great-grandfather, Dr. Lambert Ireland who lived in Terre Haute from 1837 to 1849 when he went to California in the Gold Rush.

Old family Bible records show his first six children were born in Indiana: "Lambert Ireland, born 1815, Cincinnati, Ohio; married 1837 Martha Jane McCashlin, born 1818, Culpepper, Va. Their children were: Mary Ellen, 1838; Elias O., 1839; Amanda Jane, 1841; Elizabeth Frances, 1844; Elijah Eberly, 1846; and Oscar Marian, 1848.

After several years of gold-mining he returned to his medical practise in California and was licensed in 1878. Other than the fact that Dr. Ireland and his wife were ardent workers in the Methodist church while they lived in Terre Haute, little more information could be found on them.

An interesting problem came from Davis, Calif., which concerns a great-grandfather Joseph Lyon who was born 1841 in Vigo County. According to

family tradition, when he was a small baby his father and older brother were in the fields, his mother came in and stood by the fire place to warm herself and her clothing caught fire and she burned to death. The baby, about a year old, was given for adoption to Jacob and Elizabeth Lyon. The older brother was given to another family but not adopted. He kept his name of Henry Balding. What became of the father is unknown.



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Both Baldings and Lyons were early families here in Vigo County. There is much information on both families in the county histories, etc. One reference states: "Among the first, and possibly the very first settlers of Otter Creek township were the Baldings from New York and Jacob and David Lyon from Ohio . . ."

A traveler enroute from St. Louis to his home in Pennsylvania stopped off for a few hours in Terre Haute to visit our oldest city cemetery, Woodlawn Cemetery established in 1838, on North 3rd St., now U.S. Highway 41.

His great-grandfather, Robert Hart Reno, was born in or near Terre Haute in 1820, the son of Elijah Dugan Reno. In the 1880s, Robert and his 18-year-old son Aaron left the family here and migrated to Missouri in a covered wagon.

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They homesteaded land near DeKalb, Mo. The father died before he could return for his family and Aaron stayed on and never returned to Terre Haute.

Only one sister, Cordelia, ever contacted Aaron in later years. There were at least three boys—John, Charles and Julius Reno, and one other sister, Marietta. Does anyone know what was the fate of the rest of this Reno family, whom they married, where they lived and were buried?

From Pennsylvania came a letter about the Sankey family. Thomas Sankey was born in England and migrated to America about 1760, landed in Delaware and lived there until 1770 when he migrated westward to Kishacoquillas Valley, Mifflin County, Pa. By 1790 his family included six children. His eldest son, Thomas, Jr., born in 1770 came to Vigo County and his will dated 1858 listed nine children. Thomas Sankey III, born 1799 in Ohio, died 1867 in

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Meikle Hicks born near Terre Haute in 1824. Was the father's name John Hicks, the mother's name Caroline Fish, and brothers and sisters Henry, Lucius and Elizabeth?

And then there's the problem of Benjamin Taylor who emigrated from England in the late 1840s and settled in Clark County, Ill., where several of his family were born, reared and married. He was still living there in 1881. A deed of 1903, however, lists him as "a widower of Vigo County, Ind." The family was unaware that he ever lived here because he died soon after and is buried at Independence, Kan.

A woman wrote from El Paso, Texas, asking for information on Calvin Anderson, born in 1845, the oldest of eleven children born to Robert and Elizabeth (Cassady) Anderson. She wanted to know if he fought in the Civil War.

Time, weather, vandals and so-called progress are eroding our pioneer cemeteries fast. In the future searchers may not be able to locate and read these grave markers. To come face to face with an ancient tomb-

stone inscribed with the name of a man born before the Revolutionary War takes one back in time with a truly emotional impact.

Other counties all over the United States will be marking and finding graves of 1776 veterans. There are so many cemeteries to investigate, so many records to search, and so much red-tape to unravel to obtain government tombstones or suitable markers for these unmarked graves.

Some of the letters received concern ancestors who fought in the American Revolution and the whereabouts of their last resting places. A search to locate and chart every veteran of the 1776-1783 war is in the planning stages for the 200th anniversary of our independence in 1976.

Sullivan County, and his will shows seven children.

Some of the most time consuming letters enclose a chart with lots of blank spaces for me to fill in. One recent letter from Larned, Kan., contained 78 blanks concerning the Simmons family.

A woman in Pullman, Wash., wrote concerning her great-grandfather James

# Winged Skulls Popular on Tombstones 200 Years Ago

To DEC 9 1973 By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Every graveyard browser who has enjoyed a quiet stroll through one of Boston's historic burying-grounds has been intrigued by the many winged skulls that are carved on the old slate gravestones. Staring and mute, these winged skulls display a seemingly endless variety of shapes and styles. Some are malevolent and hideous; others round-faced and friendly. Still others are triangular and toothy. But they all return the visitor's gaze with a fixed, stony expression that suggests an eternity of watching and waiting.

Some of these somber slate sentinels were carved over 200 years ago, and depict the Puritan spirit that once dominated New England. These skulls gradually became less severe and evolved into friendly, cherubic faces and life-like portraits of ministers and enterprising yankee tradesmen 150 years later.

The Puritans who colonized the inhospitable Massachusetts shoreline in the 17th century were uncompromising in their pursuit of piety. Forbidding pictures and images of any kind, particularly in church, the single artistic extravagance permitted by their society was in the pageantry of death. An early Puritan funeral was an occasion for a lavish procession led by an ornate funeral carriage decorated with black bunting. Horses were dressed with black stockings, pallbearers' gloves meticulously embroidered, and mourners' clothes expensive black garments. But it was their gravestones that received the most attention. Puritan gravestones were cut from the finest available New England slate, and were inscribed with a painstaking native artistry seldom found elsewhere in their culture.

Today, only these tombstones survive as a reminder of this somber pageantry. Typically arranged (like in bed) with a headstone and a footstone, the dark slate was engraved with the common accessories and symbols of death: skeletons, skulls, coffins, shovels, hourglasses, arrows, and scythes. Because it fit pleasingly into the crescent contour of the stone's upper edge, the winged skull soon became the most common emblem cut into headstones. The skull signified death, but its wings suggested the soul's flight heavenward.

Between the years 1690 and 1690, at a time when Massachusetts witchcraft mania was approaching its height, some of the darkest and most brutish headstones in New England were shaped by the chisels of early Boston craftsmen. Among them were a Boston Quaker named William Mumford, Joseph Lanson, and the earliest of all who was known only as the "Boston Stonemason." Other less skillful artisans copied the work of the above but added touches of their own. They added curved eyebrows, straight clenched teeth, outlines of lips, and huge eyes.



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After 1700, the emblem begins to show unmistakable signs of animation. One stone carved in 1719 wears what appears to be a stylish wig, another a curled mustache, and still another life-like pupils in the eyes.

By the time of the Revolutionary War, only one stonemason in Boston was still engraving skulls. In their place came faces: round faces, curly-haired faces, geometric faces and cherubic faces. In time, the flanking wings were discarded, and the faces were framed in an arch or an oval. And by 1800 it became common for wealthy New England merchants and ministers to have a formal portrait engraved into their tombstones by the leading

stonemasonry craftsmen of the time.

The appearance of the portrait stone completes the story of this winged emblem. As the new American nation came of age, increasingly cosmopolitan Boston families looked for quieter symbols on their monuments, and other, less original designs replaced winged skulls, coffins, and portraits alike. With the rural and seacoast towns following Boston's lead, the native originality of the New England stonemasons fell into a decline from which it never recovered. But a story in stone remains — a story that reflects the quickening spirit of a people who settled the

New England coastline as dark-minded, witch-burning Puritans, but who blossomed a little over a century later, into a new, wordly, Yankee breed of men.

Death can be funny, the funniest thing about it being the world's fear of it. The late Dorothy Parker used to amuse her friends by thinking up epitaphs for her own tombstone, such as "This is on me," "Excuse My Dust," and "If You Can Read This, You Are Standing Too Close."

You can still find chuckles in the graveyards, but invariably they are on the headstones of gay hearts and interesting people who died a couple of generations ago. Today's monuments record birth and death dates and perhaps, a perfunctory religious line or two. Frequently in the old days they told a story of the deceased such as this epitaph in Nantucket, Mass. "Here lies old twelve and half per cent, the more he had the less he spent, the more he had the

more he graved. O God, can Ichabod be saved?"

I heard of one gravestone reading "Here lies Jane Smith, wife of Thomas Smith, marble cutter. This monument was erected by her husband as a tribute to her memory and a specimen of his work. Monuments of the same style \$250."

A boulder on a grave near Mount Pisgah Cemetery, Cripple Creek, Colo., succinctly states: "He called Bill Smith a liar."

An elderly physician who met with his cronies in the drug store always picked up the soda counter check. The epitaph on his stone says: "This one is on me."

Early stonemasons must have been fond of carving puns on words. "Under the sod, under the trees, lies the body of Jonathan Pease. He is not here, but only his seed. He has shelled his peas, and gone to his God."

Men with several wives sometimes have problems. One man's monument in Toronto, Ont., lists seven wives who died before him. A man in Illinois is buried with two wives. His third outlived him. His stone records "Mary D. Jones, his perfect wife . . . Lucy Talbot, his second sweet wife . . . Mary E. Briggs, his healthful third wife."

Last year's Old Farmer's Almanac tells of a man by the name of Church who buried four wives in a single New England plot. In his old age, the wives had to be moved. He did the job himself. Somehow the bones became mixed. His New England conscience would not let him use the old headstone so he had a new one carved declaring "Stranger pause and drop a tear. For Emily Church lies buried here. Mixed in some perplexing manner, with Mary, Matilda and probably Hannah."

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# Columnist's Mailbag Has Collection of Puzzles

IS FEB 3 1974 By DOROTHY J. CLARK

A local historian spends much time answering letters of inquiry concerning family trees and events of bygone days.

From Creve Coeur, Missouri, came a plea for help in compiling the history of the Williams family. Andrew Williams was born in Clay county, Ind., in 1837, the son of John and Rebecca (?) Williams. He married Elizabeth Jane Kearns, the daughter of William and Sarah Jane (Wiser) Kearns. She was born in Ohio, but was living with her parents in Clay county when she married Williams in 1860.

One census record shows Andrew Williams listed as Drewry Williams, and the letter-writer was seeking a marriage record or some other document to prove this was the same man.

Another Clay county problem came from Deerfield, Ill. A great-grandson of Nathaniel Tucker, a Captain in the North Carolina Militia during the War of 1812, was seeking information about the family. The Captain's eldest son, John Tucker and his wife Elizabeth Ann Lowdermilk are buried in a pasture on "The Old Tucker Homestead" near Cory, Ind. Knowing he was dying of tuberculosis, John selected the spot for his burial. The tombstone gives the following dates for this couple: John Tucker, 1810-1860; Elizabeth, his wife, 1813-1893. Of their nine children, three of them—Hedge, Solomon and Stephen—fought in the Civil War with the Indiana troops. Stephen was killed in action in the Battle of Thompson Station.

A letter from Los Angeles asked where Michael Seldomridge and others of his family are buried in the Sandford vicinity. The name was also spelled Seltenerich. Family tradition says that Michael was a widower with several children when he came to Vigo county. One of his sons, Cyrus



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CLARK

Jackson Seldomridge, born in 1833, later moved to Muncie, Ind. Two sons of Cyrus were John Rollins, born in 1864 (said to be the namesake of their doctor) and Emory, born 1858, died 1939, in Terre Haute

So many problems concern families who traveled through Terre Haute on their way farther west. Sometime they stopped here for a few years, but left few "footprints" unless they bought land, married, or managed some how to get in the vital statistics.

Jessie Purcell, born in Tennessee, married Jane Akers in Harrison Co., Ky., and next showed up in Vigo county in 1853 until about 1856. They had twelve children — six sons: John, Benjamin, Will, Lewis, Samuel, Alex; and six daughters: Nam, Kate, Elizabeth, Emeline, Anna and one unknown.

One of the descendants of this family wrote from Cambridge City, Ind., seeking information on any of the twelve children.

From China Lake, Calif., came a letter asking information on the family of Stephen and Mary F. (Mann) Terhune. Ten of their children were listed born between 1835 and 1856 in this area.

A letter from Casa Grande, Ariz., asked for information on Samuel Jackson who died

in Vigo county after 1830. Was his wife Barbara Reger or Eleanor Smith?

From Mansfield, Ohio came an interesting letter telling of Mike Griffin, a hot-tempered Irish ancestor who loved a fight. During Civil War days, a fight based on a political argument started in McElroy's saloon on Wabash Avenue between Fifth and Sixth streets. The local constabulary was called in, but it was necessary for the priest from St. Joseph's church to stop the brawl.

Family stories say that Mike went looking for fights; dragging his coal on the sidewalk as they did in Donohue's hoping some fellow would step on it and oblige with a fight. Mike wasn't born in Ireland; he was born in Terre Haute, but his tombstone shows that he died at the age of 35 years from the results of a fight.

Does anyone know about the family of Samuel and Fannie (Hull) Hunter who settled

near New Goshen in 1857. Their children were: William O., James, John, Alonzo, Alex, Charles, Frank, Mary Jane and Clara.

Not all letters concern people. One from Neenah, Wisconsin, asked about the "Dubre Building." A great-grandmother, Isabel (Dubre) Lewis and her husband Frank Lewis left Terre Haute to make their home in Wisconsin at an early date.

According to the 1830 census there were six members of the Dubre family living in Princeton. In 1820 there was a Benjamin Dubre listed in Sullivan. The 1828 tax list shows a John Duberry owning eighty acres in Vigo county located in Section 26, Township 11, Range 10. As late as 1898 there was a Samuel Dubre in Lost Creek Township. But, where was the Dubre Building?

A lady in Tippecanoe, Ind., was seeking information on the George W. Carey family.

I suggested a search of the 1850 census and hand records for the family of Thomas and Ann (?) Franklin who lived somewhere between Sullivan and Terre Haute between 1847 and 1850. They had three children: Daniel, Elizabeth and Eunice. Does anyone know of this early family?

Thomas Franklin is supposed to have sold his land to a brother and started for Illinois. After crossing the Wabash river he took sick and died. The family ended up west of Champaign, Ill. Ann Franklin died in 1853 and is buried in an old cemetery

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southeast of Mahomet, Ill. Daniel died at Vicksburg and is buried there. Where is Thomas Franklin buried?

In a few weeks, I'll have another column on letters received on local history and genealogy problems. Write or call me if you can furnish an answer.

Community Affairs File

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# Letters Seek Information

Clark, Dorothy Community Affairs File

## About Local Ancestors

15 MAR 3 1974 By DOROTHY J. CLARK

This local historian gets her full complement of interesting mail. Some letters give me ideas for future columns; some give me a headache trying to research the problems; all require (and receive) prompt answers.

From Arkansas City, Kan., came a letter asking for help on Daniel and Jemima (?) Sparks and their children, particularly their daughter, Eliza Jane, who married John Budd.

A letter from Marion, Iowa asks for help in tracing the family of Robert F. Tate who married Lillian McKensey Heath, a widow with one son, Robert Heath. She had three children by Tate — Jerry, Jessie and Rose L.

Robert Tate worked on the railroad for many years, a member of Vigo Lodge No. 16, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, with a lodge card dated 1891. At that time he had been employed on the Vandalia Railroad for over five years. Does anyone know where Lillian is buried? Her husband died from injuries received in a railroad accident while employed as crossing flagman in Terre Haute on June 23, 1917, aged 57 years, and is buried in Highland Lawn Cemetery.

An old marriage certificate dated 1917 shows William Reynolds and Grace Davis were married in Terre Haute. She disappeared in 1924, and her granddaughter would like to find out anything she can about her grandmother before 1917 or after 1924. Can anyone help?

Can anyone furnish information on a Dudley Vanderbilt born in Terre Haute between 1830 and 1850? He married a Rosa Gillispie from Illinois, and we know they had at least one child, Minnie Mable Vanderbilt, who was born in 1884. This request came from Vallejo, Calif.

A letter from Georgia asked for information on her mother's side of the family — a Jessie Margaret Brown, daughter of John and Emma (Murphy) Brown, all buried at Highland Lawn Cemetery. The parents of Emma were James and M. (Hardy) Murphy. Can anyone help this letter-writer?

From Wichita, Kan., came a letter asking for help in locating a complete list of the children of James Washington Shepherd and his wife Cathern Ann. They lived in Fayette Township, possibly near New Goshen, in Vigo County, and are buried in the Shepherd Cemetery, located in the southwest part of Section 4, Township 13, Range 9.



DOROTHY J.  
CLARK

One county history states they had 11 children, eight of whom lived to maturity. Does anyone have the complete list or any other information on this early pioneer family?

James Washington Shepherd was born in 1809 and died in 1875. His wife, Cathern Ann, was born in 1810 and died in 1880. He is supposed to have helped to build the first frame house in Terre Haute. The writer was trying

Continued On Page 6, Col. 3.

## Dorothy Clark

15 MAR 3 1974

Continued From Page One.

To prove that Alonzo G. Shepherd was one of their sons.

Another interesting letter came from a local resident, James E. Haskell of RR 51. In response to an earlier column on Otter Creek mills of early days, Mr. Haskell told me of an early mill on the middle fork of Otter Creek where the present concrete bridge is at Ehrmanndale now 107 Street.

In 1940, an 89 year-old man named Menely told Mr. Haskell that there was a sash mill there which cut logs with the saw for a frame like a buck saw. He was shown a chip off one of the logs that was part of the dam there;

and he believed it was formerly a walnut log.

Several months ago an elderly lady in Oklahoma sent a young relative to Terre Haute to research her early ancestors here. The family tradition had it that an early relative hauled the stones in his horse-drawn dray for the building of the court house steps.

The ancestor was Owen Fredricks (Fredericks) who was born in Germany in 1843. He came to the United States before the Civil War, and enlisted in the Northern Army here in Terre Haute in 1865, and served in the 156th Indiana.

The researcher believed that Owen, his wife, the former Gretchen Cordes, and a married daughter, Ernestine Stewart, died and were buried here, but so far no trace of this family has been found.

Another puzzle came from Kansas from the descendant of Caleb Beall (or Beal or Bales) who was supposed to have helped raise the first log house on the present site of the city of Terre Haute.

I've often thought that if I had a dollar for every time I've heard about an ancestor who built the court house, or built the first log, or frame, or brick house or building, or bridge, or jail, or just about anything in Terre Haute or Vigo County, I would be close to being a millionaire by now!

I found a Jeremiah Beal, born 1807 in Virginia, who came to Tennessee first and then to Parke County, Ind. He had 11 children, but no Caleb. One of his sons, John Beal,

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# Historically Speaking

16 NOV 18 1975

By DOROTHY J. CLARK



Latest reports show that genealogy has taken over first place as a hobby. This is partly due to the influence of volunteer genealogists whose only compensation is the satisfaction that people are becoming aware of the contribution our ancestors have made to the development of our country. You can not separate genealogy and history. Our ancestors have made our country great, and it is up to everyone of us to continue to keep it so. We have a heritage that is unsurpassed.

Interest in genealogy continues to grow by leaps and bounds. So many new organizations, magazines, columns, etc., have appeared in the last few years, it has been impossible to keep abreast of all that is happening.

Since the days of the Pilgrim Fathers, genealogists have been a most potent influence upon the writings of local history. The biographical sketches in county histories are convincing proof of the genealogist's motivation in writing local history. Modern genealogists have made family history a much broader field than a mere search for vital statistics of one's ancestors.

The interest in genealogy and the numbers of those pursuing it as a hobby is very apparent when visiting the Library of Congress Annex which houses a vast amount of genealogical holdings, or the Library in Salt Lake City, where numerous searchers can be seen working on their problems.

Amateur searchers can be found in public libraries, private libraries, historical society libraries, city halls, courthouses, churches, abstract offices, any places where records may yield the information needed for completing a family tree.

And times have changed. Only a few of these people are the old-time ancestor worshipper. The genealogical researcher today is searching for an identity by learning about his ancestors — who they were, how they lived, what they did — that he may know himself and go happily along the bypaths of history and developing civilization.

To do a worthwhile job or ancestor hunting, the vital statistics must be proved. Accomplishing this can be rewarding, frustrating and disappointing, but fascinating. If one perseveres in looking at enough wills, property transfers, family Bible records, pension, church, census, marriage, birth, death and cemetery records, the information one seeks will, more often than not, show up.

The National Headquarters of the Boy Scouts of America have recently approved a new merit badge for genealogy. This should bring many young people into the field of genealogy and, hopefully, will instill an understanding and pride in their forebears.

Ancestors are found along with old furniture and captive skeletons in all our best

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regulated families. Ancestors consist of forefathers and foremothers, to say nothing of foreuncles and aunts, who have done something grand and noble, like being beheaded by a king or having a relative who was governor of a colony. This enables them to be pointed out with pride by their descendants forevermore.

Being an ancestor is one of the easiest and most attractive of jobs. It merely consists of being boasted about by one's descendants. Thus, many ancestors have been enabled to make good after they are dead. More than one ancestor who has gone out of this life a poor person, and only a few jumps ahead of the sheriff, has had the good fortune, a century later, to become the ancestor of some ambitious family with plenty of money, and has become so famous in consequence that his tombstone has had to be greatly enlarged and improved.

Ancestors are one of the most valuable and satisfactory of possessions. They are non-taxable and cannot be stolen. Their upkeep is practically nothing and they do not deteriorate with age and neglect. In fact, they increase in value as they grow older. An ancestor 600 years old is worth a whole mass meeting of 56-year-old ancestors. Adam is the oldest ancestor. He is 6,000 years old, and has a fine record. But he is a common possession, like education and liberty, so he is not valued very highly.

Almost all rich people own and operate ancestors. But the poorest men have them, too. Many a man who hasn't two vests to his name, and cannot hold a job two minutes, has ancestors which are the envy of his automobile neighbors.

We cannot buy ancestors if we do not have them, but we can buy them for our children by marrying discreetly. We should be proud of our ancestors, but not out loud.

A church historian in Kentucky wrote to me seeking information about one of his former pastors, the Rev. Dr. Charles Clinton Marshall, a Baptist minister, who was born and reared in Clay county Lewis township, in 1868. He was the son of Nelson W. and Sarah (Chambers) Marshall.

Does anyone know where Rev. Marshall died and is buried? Any information about the minister would be appreciated. According to a Clay county history, he married Estella Trinkle, who died the next year. Secondly, he married Winnie Dautaz, by whom he had two children, Byron and Hubert Marshall.

A letter came from Paris, Ill., with the information a reader asked for about the Samuel Hunter family who came to Indiana about 1855.

A letter from Oceanside, New York, asked for information about the DeBaun family particularly the line of the former county commissioner of Vigo county. This reader has the family tree back to 1683 when the first Joost DeBaun settled in New Utrecht, N.Y. Anyone having information about the local connection is invited to call or write to me for the address of this family historian.

Please copy to BLM

# Historically Community Affairs File Speaking

To DEC 21 1975

By DOROTHY J. CLARK



To DEC 21 1975

The postman brings letter of inquiry that I must read and file in some sort of retrieval system, or else pitch in the waste basket. Decisions, decisions!

All letters get some sort of answer, some are passed on to someone I know has the answer, or can find it faster than I can, and all genealogical queries are filed after they are answered so they can help someone else in the future.

A letter from Roselle, N. J., asked for information on Lewis Orth, born 1803 in Germany, and died 1877 in Edwards, Ind., Otter Creek township. He married, date and place unknown. Catherine Stamm, born 1819 in Miesanbach, Germany, died 1880 in Edwards, Ind. They had 13 children.

The letter-writer was interested in locating the area in Germany where Orth was born and married, and where the old Orth family might be located. Someone may have the answer to all these questions.

Another letter was seeking any information pertaining to the Benjamin F. Flesher family. He was born in 1835 in Meigs County, Ohio, and died 1905 in Prairieton township, Vigo County, Ind.

Flesher married Caroline Hughes Hall in Jackson County, W. Va. She was born there in 1836 and died in 1931 in Prairieton township. They raised 10 of their 15 children. The letter-writer was interested in when they moved to Darwin, Illinois area and when they returned to Indiana.

The Flesher family came from Jackson County, W. Va., in the early 1860's to either Prairieton or Prairie Creek townships. Five children were buried in the Darwin cemetery, Clark County, Ill., so this move may have been in about 1863 to 1869. Does anyone have information about this family?

A letter came from Charles R. Brown, Montezuma, Ind., after I had written about the store at Markle's Mill. I had quoted from an earlier historical writing about Christmas Dazney and "his mother and sisters and possibly he himself lies buried in a little cemetery just above Armiesburg in Parke county."

Mr. Brown was only aware of Dazney having one sister whose name was Mary and who first married a man by the name of Shields, later marrying Lewis Peckham. Quoting from an article from Rhode Island History, Mr. Brown informed me that Lewis Peckham died previous to 1823 leaving his wife and two small children and that he was buried in Vincennes. The same article also stated that the daughter died in 1825 and was soon followed in death by her mother, Mary. From this record it would appear that they were buried in Vincennes.

One source has stated that Noel or Christmas Dazney's mother died in 1822 and was buried near Fort Harrison. Mr. Brown states that Christmas died at Coldwater Grove, Kan., in 1848 and is buried in the Dagenet family plot in Indian Cemetery near Lewisburg, Kan. He has been unable to prove that any of the Dazney family were buried in St. Mary's Cemetery at Armiesburg. However, a daughter Eliza, who married John Ensworth, their son Warren J., and daughter Iris are buried in the old cemetery at Montezuma.

A letter came from Los Angeles, Calif., from the great-grand-daughter of William Frege Krumbhaar and his wife Jane Butler McCutcheon Krumbhaar. Their farm was located where Krumbhaar subdivision is now located. Their eldest child, William Butler Krumbhaar, was the letter-writer's grandfather.

She was interested to learn that the mantel and andirons from the old Krumbhaar home are now in the possession of Mrs. Allen Merrill whose great-grandmother and Mrs. Krumbhaar were friends and founders of St. Stephen's Church.

Ludwig (Lewis) Krumbhaar, the emigrant, came to Philadelphia in 1796. The family migrated from Pennsylvania to New Orleans, north to Terre Haute, and south again when the Civil War broke out.

There are so many references to T. A. Madison in our local histories and town records. He came to Terre Haute from New York sometime between 1832 and 1836. The 1850 census lists Tindall Angel Madison, age 43, carpenter, and his wife Mary Ann, age 38, both born in New York. Their children were Sidelia, 18, Alvin, 12, Edgar,

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10. Herbert. 8. Mandarin. 7. Clara, 3, and a mulatto named Indian Hill, age 11, who was born in Virginia.

T. A. Madison and a brother, R. A. Madison, were in Cincinnati in 1830, but T. A. moved immediately, apparently for 2 or 3 years to Missouri (their oldest daughter was born there), then to Terre Haute, 1832-36. He was a ladderman of the First Hook & Ladder Company of Volunteer Firemen in 1840, city councilman in 1853, and appointed to the county building commission in 1844 to build the Vigo County Seminary.

The letter-writer was particularly interested in finding out exactly where in New York Madison came from, who his parents were, etc., as she was interested in joining a patriotic lineage society, if she was eligible.

If there are any descendants of the six children of T. A. Madison who have knowledge of their ancestors, I would hope they would contact me about this interesting family.

# Historically Speaking

TS JAN 18 1976

By DOROTHY J. CLARK



## Community Affairs File

Interest in genealogy continues to increase in this country as more and more Americans have more leisure time, retire earlier and need a hobby. The yearning for a more stable existence turns people's minds back to earlier days and nostalgic thoughts of the past.

Much of my mail deals with genealogical inquiries and they come from all over the world. A gentleman from Houston, Texas, was seeking information about his great-great-grandfather, Adam Nees, born in Pennsylvania, and his wife, Mary, and their son, Thomas N. Nees (1848-1930) and his wife Mary A. Wilson (1851-1927) of Cory, Ind.

He also wanted to know more about his great-grandfather, Abraham Larew and his wife, Anna Hines, who died in Blackhawk, Ind.

Another gentleman of Stockbridge, Georgia, had received a copy of my Sunday column on the history of Lewis, Ind. His ancestors came from that area. His great-grandfather was killed in the Civil War. His grandfather, John Thomas, died about 1907. He would like to know if he has any relatives still living in this area.

A lady in Ellinwood, Kan., has been working on the Hayward-Stalcup lineage for some time. Her great-grandfather, Hiram Hovey Hayward, was born in 1828 in Greene County, Indiana. He married Elizabeth Stalcup, also born in Greene County in 1824. She was trying to determine if Elizabeth was the daughter of Isaac Stalcup, early settler, who came to Greene County in 1817 from North Carolina. He had 21 children.

Anyone having information on these families is invited to exchange information with the letter-writer.

A letter from Lawrenceburg, Ind., asked for information about Joseph Medley who was born in North Carolina in 1803. His wife, Rachel Stewart, and he were married in Knox County, Tenn., in 1825. By 1850 this family had five children according to the Vigo County census records.

The five children were John A., the letter-writer's grandfather, Sarah Jane, Lucinda, Martha and George.

She thought Joseph Medley might have been buried in Bethesda Cemetery as two of his grandchildren were buried there in 1877 and 1878. Where was Joseph's home in Sugar Creek Township? Was it on the Crew's farm?

I researched the problem and found a Joseph Medley who died in 1844 was buried in the Wood Cemetery in Otter Creek Township. This only added to the puzzle. Does anyone have further knowledge of this early Medley family?

From East Troy, Wis., came a letter about a search for a grandfather, John Rukes and his wife, Sarah, who were living in Parke County in 1850. Records were complicated by the fact that old John was married four times.

One of his sons was born in Terre Haute in 1865. The

father and four sons migrated to Missouri in 1890.

Obituaries in old newspapers are frequently helpful to family tree climbers. I copied the following from Terre Haute's first newspaper, The Western Register & Terre Haute Advertiser.

On Sept. 10, 1823 appeared "Died on Friday night the 5th inst in Otter Creek Twp. Colonel Gershom Tuttle, in the 54th year of his age. On Sunday last his remains were consigned to the earth, accompanied with Masonic honors by the Terre Haute Lodge of which he was a member."

The same year, on Sept. 24, appeared "Died—22nd inst. Zalmon Bedient, late of New York City, aged 24 years, had resided here a short time."

On April 7, 1824 this obituary was found: "Died on the 14th inst. Abigail, wife of Levi Jacobs, Otter Creek Twp., aged 46 years, etc."

Betsey Harris was appointed the administrator of the estate of John Harris, deceased, on Feb. 24, 1826. The estate had been declared insolvent by the court on Jan. 21, so his death date can be determined from this information.

The obituary in the March 3, 1826 issue stated: "Died at his residence in the Prairie Creek settlement on Saturday last, Thomas S. Thompson, Printer."

Some letters combine genealogy and local history. For instance, the letter from Sullivan, Ill., was asking for information about the ancestors of Jonathan Graham, born in North Carolina in 1788, according to family records. He was supposed to have lived in Fort Harrison during the 1812 Indian attack. In 1831 he sold out his Indiana property and moved to Illinois.

A letter from Covina, Calif.,

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was seeking information about the Cundiff family which came from Kentucky and Virginia to Indiana. His records went back to Robert Cundiff, born in Gregsboro, Ky. about 1794. His brother, James, was a Baptist minister in Hardin County.

One of Robert's children was Richard Nelson Cundiff who married Mary Agnes Blue from Shelby County, Tenn. They had at least nine children. Anyone having information about this Cundiff-Blue family are invited to contact the writer. I keep these inquiries on file for several years.

So many people are deriving so much pleasure from tracing family trees that it is a joy to help as many as possible. If more of these searchers knew more about proper letter writing and how to search for information they would get better and faster results.

# Historically Speaking

Community Affairs File

By DOROTHY J. CLARK



To FEB 15 1976

Information concerning early photographers of Terre Haute is constantly in demand because family albums are full of unidentified and undated photographs of ancestors. When names and addresses of photographers are found printed or stamped on the backs of these old pictures, the owners believe they can contact the photographer's studio and find out the date and name of the persons if he would only consult his negative file.

There are no files of early photographers in existence, but the following listing will answer the question about when local photographers plied their trade at any given address in Terre Haute. We can't help identify Uncle Joe or Aunt Mary, but we can tell the time period the photo was taken.

When a family portrait was to be made, either as a group, wedding picture, or individually, Terre Hauteans had their choice of three "Daguerrean artists" in 1858. They were Alshuler & Nicoloy, No. 8 Phoenix Row; Charles Eppert (who specialized in making Ambrotypes), No. 1 Prairie City Building; and Adam R. Miller, "Photographist," south side of Wabash between Market and 4th St.

In 1860-61, Eppert was located at 111 Wabash, Adam R. Miller at 87 Wabash, and Philip Nicoloy, at 109 Wabash.

By 1872, Miller and Nicoloy had moved, and only Eppert remained. In addition, newly-listed photographers were Carlton C. Beit, north side of Main between 3rd and 4th; J. W. Husher, in the Prairie City Bank Bldg., east side of 6th between Ohio and Main; Joseph Kelley, south side Main between 4th and 5th; and D. H. Wright, 105 Main.

Two years later in 1874, Beit was located at the northwest corner of 4th and Main. The others were the same with the exception of Wright who had expanded from 105 Main to also include 115 and 117 Main.

In 1875, the changes included J. M. Adams, 105 Main; L. J. Bryant, southeast corner 6th and Main; also, the shop of Husher was not listed.

Many of the photographers had moved upstairs in downtown locations by 1877. Adams was at 407½ Main; David C. Bryant, 20 Main; Eppert, 323½ Main; Huiet, 925 Main; Kelly, 417½ Main; R. G. Murphy, 329½ Main, and Wright, 421½ Main.

The 1878-79 city directory drops Bryant, shows Huiet located between 7th and 8th, and adds William E. Price, 12½ S. 6th St. The others remain the same.

In 1880, D. C. Bryant returned to the list at 1st and Main; and Kelley and Price were not listed; the others remained the same.

In 1882, there were only four: Adams, Eppert, Huiet and Wright. This remained the situation until 1884 when W. F. Staples, 33 S. 5th St., and D. W. Young, 619 Main, were added.

Henry I. Biel had opened the Bee Hive Gallery, 31 S. 5th, by 1886. Umber Udelmore, 33 S. 5th, was also new. Adams, Huiet, Eppert and Wright remained in the same locations.

By 1887, Biel had moved into

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Adams' former shop at 417½ Wabash. Holloway & Buckingham had taken over the gallery of Udelmore, formerly Staples, at 33 S. 5th Street.

Changes in 1890-91 included the listing of Eppert & Son; W. S. Buckingham had taken over the firm of Holloway & Buckingham; and the firm had become Wright & Holloway, 510½ Wabash; John H. Huiet had moved upstairs to 721½ Wabash and Thomas Hutton was added to the list at 422 Ohio.

Many old photographs are marked with the name of J. O. Bonebrake, 925 Wabash. This would date them as 1894 at the earliest and in 1904 he moved to 644½ Wabash.

In 1894, the list included: Biel, Bonebrake, Eppert & Son, Thomas J. Grigson, 720 Wabash; Pickerill & Nash, 32 S. 4th; Stiglerman & Kautz, 619 Wabash, and Wright & Holloway.

The list of 1896-97 included Biel, Bonebrake J. W. Davis, 120 N. 3rd; Eppert & Son, Grigson, George G. Holloway (The Modern), Albert A. LeClear, 26½ S. 7th St., Harry Pinson, 1706 N. 4th St., and D. H. Wright.

In 1901-02, Eppert & Son had moved to the Naylor-Cox Bldg., 402½ Wabash; O.E. Batman, 620½ Wabash; Henry T. Biel, 419½ Wabash; Bonebrake; William M. Bundy, 420½ Wabash, James David, 106 N. 3rd; George G. Holloway, 673½ Wabash; Walter B. Lyon, 517½ Wabash; Walter R. Lyon, 1 S. 1st, and Henry S. Tennis, 814½ Wabash.

In 1904, the city had twelve photographers: Orville E. Batman, Biel, Bonebrake, Bundy, Davis, Eppert & Son, S. S. Fredericks, 519½ Wabash, James M. Heath, 907½ Wabash, Holloway, two of the name Lyon, and Tennis.

Two years later, Davis, Fredericks and Tennis were not listed. Added were James

W. Hayman, 814½ Wabash; Charles W. Myers, 907½ Wabash, and George D. Noyes, West Terre Haute.

One year later there were three new ones: William F. Kerr, 907½ Wabash; Frank J. Martin, 681½ Wabash (he specialized in blueprints) and George A. Webster, 814½ Wabash. Missing were the names of Hayman and Noyes. Prior to retirement in 1975, Martin's celebrated their 68th year of continuous business in Terre Haute.

In 1908, Alice Kerr had taken over her husband's business; Noyes was listed as a commercial photographer at 1623 S. 3rd; Higgins L. Stone, 641½ Wabash; and Euphemia Wilkinson, 38 Gilbert Ave., were new.

Roy Beck first appeared in 1910 at 109 N. 4th. So did David B. Elrod, 1018 Wabash; Harry H. Hurd, 25½ S. 7th St.; William Meyers, 324 Ohio, and Arthur R. Wood, 814½ Wabash. Dropped were names of Batman, Webster and Wilkinson.

In 1911-12, Biel was replaced by William H. Doerner at 419½ Wabash. New listings were Walter F. Chipman, Nora Francis, John T. Lewis, Hiroshi Nakaimura, George D. Noyes and Ida Taylor.

Walter R. Lyons was dropped by 1916, and added were Merrill Dunham, Benona J. Edwards, James M. Heath, Robert B. Hape, J. B. McNutt, Mecca Studios and Kay Overfelt (variously listed as Thos. K. and Geo. K.).

In 1918, Heath, McNutt and Mecca were dropped, and Alfred DeVallee and William Myers were added.

The first listing of Martin's Photo Shop, 681½ Wabash, was in 1920. New listings were Charles E. Shoaf, John W. Tooley and Harry Hayden.

Mrs. Linnien Taylor, 1271 Phillips Ave., was dropped in 1922, and added were John T. Lewis, Robert W. Nicholson, H. L. Stone and Eugene B. Santivany.

~~Give copy to the genealogist~~

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# Historically Community Affairs File Speaking

TS APR 25 1976

By DOROTHY J. CLARK



One of the most exasperating problems to a genealogist or historical researcher is the untangling of the branches of a Smith family tree.

Just such a problem came about when Ora A. Staley, member of the Edgar County, Ill., Historical Society, wrote me about his interest in the early settlers of the Sugar Creek area in western Vigo County, Ind., and southeastern Edgar County, Ill.

George W. Barnhart, his mother's uncle, owned a farm one mile north of the New Providence Presbyterian church on the Indiana-Illinois state line, land presently owned by Clarence Fugua. Barnhart was a Union veteran of the Civil War and lies buried next to the west fence of the New Providence Cemetery.

A 50-year veteran of American Legion Post 211, of Paris, Ill., Mr. Staley has been placing American flags on veterans' graves in five of the cemeteries of Elbridge Township.

While visiting New Providence Cemetery, he copied down some of the tombstone inscriptions he found of interest because of their age. Before he was finished, he was "rained out."

Those early grave markers included those of Mary C. Cusick, 3-year-old daughter of D. and E. Cusick, who died in 1815, an infant son who died in 1816, Elizabeth Cusick, whose dates were 1789-1812, Elizabeth, wife of J. Sims who died in 1812 at the age of 20 years, and Mary, wife of William G. Sims, who died in 1815 at the age of 15 years.

The North Arm community located on the old Clinton Road to Paris claims their neighborhood was the first settled in Edgar County. However, because of the early death dates and other information found on the tombstones, Mr. Staley and other residents of his neighborhood can't believe that settlements were not made before 1817, the date of the North Arm community.

On another trip of discovery, Mr. Staley happened on a small graveyard in western Vigo county located less than a half mile east of the state line and about one and a half miles from his home. The little cemetery is about 50 feet wide and 70 feet long, surrounded on three sides by an Osage Orange hedge and lies south of Sugar Creek.

With this information, I consulted my cemetery maps and learned that the graveyard in question is known as the David Smith Cemetery located on Dr. Joseph Minnis Jr.'s farm, previously known as the Willard Ellsworth farm.

This old cemetery is close to Nelson, the place where the Sugar Creek settlement people went for their mail from both sides of the state line in pioneer days.

Tombstone inscriptions from this cemetery include Jno Reedy Co. H. 149th Indiana Infantry, John P. Hawkins, died 1860, aged 28, Barbra E., wife of W. J. Hawkins, died 1887, aged 75, Lillie Buckingham, died 1877, aged 2, and another of the same name who died at age 71.

Sarah, wife of J. M. Pettit, died at the age of 30; also George, son of J. M. and S.

Pettit, died in 1868, aged one year.

Buried in the third row from the west is Rhoda M. Smith, wife of H. May, who died in 1885.

All in one row lie buried Priscilla, one month old baby who died in 1816, George William, who died in 1849 at age 11, infant son who died in 1870, and infant daughter who died in 1887, children of J. E. and M. E. Smith, and Alice Patton who died in 1880 at the age of 15.

A large tombstone marks the grave of Mary, wife of Jacob W. Hall, who died in 1877, aged 34, Rebecca A., wife of David E. Smith, who died in 1879, aged 35, Nancy, wife of Rev. D. Smith, died 1898, aged 87, a four-year-old child who died in 1851, and a six-year-old, and Albert H., son of A. B. and S. B. Scott, who died in 1887, aged 4. At least four other graves in this row had tombstones whose inscriptions were illegible. Mr. Staley believes there are at least 40 graves in this old cemetery, some with flat pieces of red sandstone for grave markers.

Vigo County has two Smith cemeteries, one in Honey Creek Township and the other in Sugar Creek. Since both families were very early settlers, their names appear in all the county records, in county histories, etc., and each generation used several common names. It's a real problem to sort these pioneers out into their respective families, but a lot of local history was learned in the process.

George Smith is said to have erected the first grist mill in Vigo County, although some sources dispute the fact. It was located a few miles from where Bloomtown was established by Hiram Bloom on the old Paris Road in the center of Section 16 of Sugar Creek Twp., close to the Indiana-Illinois state line. Bloomtown became known as Nelson Post Office.

Others say Henry Kuykendall, who settled in Section 22 in 1823, built the first mill on Sugar Creek.

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Another source says John, Henry and Davis Smith were among the first settlers.

At an Old Settler's Meeting in 1877 David Smith, the son of George Smith, said "he had been on the Wabash 60 years (since 1817) " He spoke of the trials of the early settlers, but insisted "they had as much fun on the average as anybody."

Known as "Uncle Davy Smith," he was described as "a good old man who preached the gospel for years. He preached to all, and asked no pay and was a hard worker till the time of his death."

He was buried in the old cemetery on the Cruse Road in Sugar Creek Twp., known as the David Smith Cemetery. His tombstone reads, Rev David Smith, died Sept. 7, 1887 ae 83" (born 1804). He married Nancy Noel in 1828 here in Vigo County and she lies buried beside him. Her tombstone reads "Died April 5, 1898 aged 87" (born 1811).

David H Smith, a farmer and miller, came to Honey Creek Twp. from Jefferson County Ind. His wife, Hannah Marts came from Washington County. They had at least five children Emory, Isaiah (born 1857), Florence who married Charles Rice, Ettie who married Joe Siner and Laura who married Vess Larkins.

The Smith Cemetery in Honey Creek is located in the center of Section 25, Township 11 Range 9.

The David Smith Cemetery in Sugar Creek Twp., is located in the northwest part of Section 22, Township 12, Range 10. The 1874 Vigo County Atlas shows David Smith owned land in Section 21.

In 1827 a David Smith married Mary Souls, and two years later there was a land transaction between Nelson Souls and David Smith involving land in Section 14, T12, R9.

Is it any wonder this writer is tempted to hide behind the door whenever anyone raises a question about anyone named Smith, particularly David Smith?

Community Affairs File

# Historically Is MAY 30 1978 Speaking

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

*(Comments by Vigo Co.)*



"How strange it is that Americans have no more regard for the place where their dead are deposited, as may be seen by the different burying grounds throughout the United States."

This statement was found in an editorial of THE RURAL DEPOSITORY published in New York in 1834 and this writer found the comments appropriate some 142 years later.

"Burying grounds," the article continued, "are generally chosen in spots away in the most gloomy recesses of the country, and adorned with all the emblems of horror, rather than those symbols of quiet repose which should always be exhibited."

It is true that New England 18th century graveyards were gloomy unkempt places with tombstones carved with death heads, coffins and death himself. Spectators were chilled with the specter of death, instead of being comforted with quiet and peace and beauty of surroundings.

The ancients interred their friends in their adjacent gardens where nothing but sweetness and freshness and beauty were seen. Later down on the page of history, European nations paid particular attention and reverence to the dead. In Turkey, a nation which has been styled by us not much superior to a semi-barbarian, while on the other hand, in this our enlightened

U.S., improvement not even pauses in its course when it comes upon one of these silent fields of the dead, but drives her ploughshares on, entirely unconscious of the sanguine feelings and affections of the living, let the kindred be what it may. If there is a law of the land to punish the resurrectionist, who merely uncuffs one of his fellowmen, and none to protect the whole mass of buried beings, what must we think of the principle that actuates our legislators?"

"The thing has gone too far already, and had it not been for some just spirit exhibited, one of the most beautiful grounds in the U.S. would have shared the general ruin, Trinity Churchyard of New York. We might also learn duty even from the Indians, who have a most scrupulous veneration for their dead, far

exceeding our cold respect. "We must not forget to mention that the Bostonians have set an example which should be followed by every city in the U.S.—that of fitting up a spot appropriate to the rest of the dead. The whole plan is so completely different from the style of the grounds now generally in use, that its benefits should be considered. There is no one probably who has not heard of Mount Auburn Cemetery, in the suburbs of Boston . . . It is right, that after the turmoil of life is hushed away in the sepulchre, that symbols of quiet should smile in calmness above us."

Woodlawn Cemetery is this community's oldest city cemetery, and on a recent visit there, I congratulated myself again for agitating for the fence around the cemetery. The late Walter Cook was the man responsible for its being made possible. When he learned the need because of recent vandalism problems, he made it a point to find available funding in the city treasury.

Driving along the main drive, I admire again the old tombs and headstones and monuments with their elaborate carvings. Parking near the circle, I walked along, musing on the proud epoch that lay buried around me. Pausing to read an inscription, I thought of the thick, curtaining mist that lay between me and the old century in which these stout merchants, fine ladies, soldiers, educators and town drunks had worked and sinned.

Suddenly, my meditations were startled by a distant sound of children at play. It was recess time at Rea School across the highway from the old cemetery. So near where were the quick and the dead, the clamor of today and the silence of yesterday.

Turning from the path on to the grass, I walked between the graves, noting again how narrow were the carriage trails used by the horse-drawn hearses, but too narrow for the modern automobile (unless it's a Beetle.)

Clumps of Live Forever huddle next to curbings and tombstones. From the time when I was a child, I can remember where the wild

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strawberries were to be found in the old section of Woodlawn, and the ghostly sound which echoed softly when rapped with knuckles the old hollow metal tombstone offered our family plot.

Woodlawn is filled with mausoleums, sculptured angels, high-based urns, countless tall crosses, in white marble or grey granite. Many of the angels have so stood at this duty so long their full-bosomed bodies are draped in creepers as well as stone. Some of them pointed upward as I walked by.

It was very quiet in the deep of the cemetery; so quiet that one could hear the drone of highway traffic, the chirping of the sparrows, and the distant roar of a power mower. One could smell the scent of cut flowers and the fragrance of blooming trees. Overall was the silence of thousands of sleepers.

Community Affairs File

Community Affairs File

# Historically Speaking

TS Jan 2, 1971

By DOROTHY J. CLARK



Family records found in old Bibles should always be recorded in a safe place for future generations. So, you say, you're not interested in that stuff? Well, maybe your children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews will be.

Frequently old Bibles turn up in flea markets, auction sales, secondhand stores and antique shops. Written on the flyleaf or on the special pages provided between the old and new testaments for births, deaths and marriages are names and dates of families which would solve many a problem for a modern-day genealogist and make a more accurate family tree.

The Vigo County Historical Society is currently collecting such information for Volume Six which will be typed, indexed and made into bound copies to be placed in local, state and national libraries for safe-keeping as the former five volumes have been.

Just recently Mrs. John R. McGregor, of Terre Haute, passed along to me an old Bible published in 1839 in New York. Written on the flyleaf in pencil were these words, "Mr. John Manley ... Written by his daughter, Rhoda Jane Manley."

The most unusual fact about this particular Bible is that it's the first one this writer has ever encountered without any births recorded...just one marriage and nine deaths. The family records begin with the marriage of John Manley and Arminda Tonnihill on April 3, 1836.

The deaths were recorded in different inks and handwritings on the 138-year-old paper and include those of John Theodore Manley who died at the age of five years in 1851; William Walter Manley who died 1868; John Manley, 1887, aged 71; Sarah Frances Manley, 1892, aged 49; Arminda Manley, 1894, 78; James Frank Manley, 1910, 69; Rhoda Jane Manley Hamon, 1928, 92; Mary Ann Martin, 1940, and the last owner, Hattie D. Manley Jones, 1942.

Along with forgotten advertisements, locks of hair, funeral flowers, and black-bordered obituaries and funeral invitations were two certificates of 20 merits each awarded to William W. Manley by his teacher, James G. May.

The first clue as to where the family had originated

from before the Bible ended up in Terre Haute came from, an obituary clipping from a newspaper in Salem, Washington County, Ind.

It stated that "Mrs. Arminda Manley, wife of the late John Manley, died at the family residence on West Market St., Sunday night, Oct. 28th, after a long and painful illness, occasioned by a fall."

She was born in 1816, being 78 years old at the time of her death. Four children survived her, Mrs. Jane Hammong, Udell, Kansas; James F. Manley, Bloomington, Ind., and the Misses Mary and Hattie Manley, of Salem.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. H. B. Sutherland, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, "of which church the deceased had been a faithful and consistent member for 50 years." She was buried in Crown Hill Cemetery.

## SNAPSHOT

A faded snapshot of Hattie Jones taken in 1924 shows an elderly white-haired lady wearing ankle-length white dress, white stockings, house slippers and holding a bouquet of garden flowers in her left hand and a sturdy cane in her right.

Found in the old Bible were receipts from the Washington County Treasurer showing Manley owned four town lots in Salem in 1894 and paid the tax rate of \$1.77 per hundred along with personal property taxes.

It's possible to reconstruct a family's life from items found in a family Bible. The receipt showing payment for a grey granite grave marker shows that Hattie Jones remembered her little brother, John T., who died in 1851 at the age of five and was buried in Crown Hill.

Hattie Dorothy Manley was born in 1859, the daughter of John and Arminda Manley, and died at the age of 87 in Salem. She married John L. Jones in 1911, and he preceded her in death. The last member of her family of three brothers and three sisters, she was survived only by a niece in Ohio.

## OTHER RECORDS

Knowing the interest in family genealogy, it's interesting to note the reader response to appeals for information on specific families.

There was probably more response to the January, 1976 column which asked for infor-

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mation about Abraham Larew and his wife, Anna, who lived in Blackhawk, Ind. Letters and telephone calls came from all over the country.

All the descendants of this couple will be interested in the book, "Garret Larew-Civil War Soldier", which was written and published by Karl Larew, West Friendship, MD 21794. This takes family lines back several generations.

Anyone having an old family Bible containing written records and genealogical information is invited to contact the writer and arrange to have the pertinent data copied. With the use of copying machines, the process takes only minutes and does not harm the original. When the records have been copied, they are properly typed and indexed, and duplicate copies bound and placed in the local library, the State Library in Indianapolis, and the DAR Library in Washington, D.C.

The use of inter-library loan and copying facilities makes the records of births, deaths and marriages found in old Bibles available to anyone who needs them and requests them. Many times the more recent information has been of invaluable help in establishing birth dates and relationships for purposes of establishing eligibility for Social Security and membership in patriotic lineage societies.

# -Historically Speaking-

Clark, Dorothy

TS JUN 12 1977

Community Affairs File

By Dorothy Clark



## Many Lineages Go Back To Alfred, Charlemagne

Many of the lineages of Englishmen and Americans of English descent can be traced back to the Ninth Century and to Alfred the Great or to Charlemagne.

They are all descended from William the Conqueror, and Anglo-Saxons are at least 30th cousins to each other. If the ancestry of a single person running back to the Twelfth Century could be written out, using a square inch to each name, it would occupy about a fourth of a square mile.

The use of the word "blood" line in connection with heredity is pure fiction kept up through tradition, according to some so-called experts. They believe, as Mephistopheles affirmed, that blood is a truly marvelous juice, but that it has nothing to do with heredity.

A boasted "line of descent" is therefore only the merest fragment of a man's genealogy, and differs from other lines only in being for a time a shade more conspicuous, or because someone has taken the pains to trace and record it. We are what we are because our ancestors were so.

History records the story of King John and his reign over the English people which resulted in the signing of the Magna Charta, the first step toward constitutional liberty for all English-speaking people everywhere.

A council of barons met at St. Albans, near London, in 1213 to draw up a list of demands for the king. Twice the demands were presented to the king and twice he refused to consider them.

The churchmen and the barons then gathered an army to oppose the king, and on June 15, 1215, they forced King John to meet them on the meadow at Runnymede, on the Thames near London. In the face of superior force, King John had no choice but to agree to the barons' terms.

Of the 25 celebrated Surety Barons, only 17 have left descendants living to the present day. The signers were William D'Albini, Lord of Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire; Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk; Hugh Bigod, his heir; Henry De Bohun, Earl of Hereford; Richard de Clare, Earl of Hertford; Gilbert de Clare, his heir; John Fitzrobert, Lord of Warkworth Castle, Northumberland; Robert Fitzwalter, Lord of Dunmow Castle, Essexshire; William de Fortibus, Earl of Albemarle; William de

Hardell, Mayor of London; William de Huntingfield, a feudal baron in Suffolk; John de Lacie, Lord of Halton Castle, Cheshire; William de Lanvallei, Lord of Stanway Castle, Essex; William Malet, Lord of Curry-Malet, Somersetshire; Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex and Gloucester; William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke's heir; Roger de Montbegon, Lord of Horneby, Lancashire; Richard de Montfichet, a feudal baron of Essex; William de Mowbray, Lord of Axholme Castle, Lincolnshire; Richeard de Percy, a feudal baron of Yorkshire; Saire de Quincey, Earl of Winchester; Robert de Roos, Lord of Hamlake Castle, Yorkshire; Geoffrey de Saye, a feudal baron in Sussex; Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford; and Eustane de Vesci, Or Lord of Alnwick, Northumberland.

Upon the descendants of the 17 signers rests the privilege and responsibility of cherishing this historic event at Runnymede, a favorite meeting place for generations of kings in council. Here under an ancient and venerated oak tree which had looked down on the ceremonies of Druids the Magna Charta was signed. The colorful scene painted as a wall mural can be admired in the

court room of the Federal Building at Terre Haute.

My interest in the Magna Charta was aroused when I learned that I was descended from one of the signers of that document. The hobby of genealogy leads to knowledge of many strange and wonderful facts about one's family.

Not too much is known about Saire de Quincey, Magna Charta Surety Baron of 1215. He was born in 1155, the first Earl of Winchester, and met his death while on a Crusade in the Holy Land on Nov. 3, 1219.

Some time before 1173, he married Margaret de Beaumont who died in 1235. She was a descendant of Isabel de Vermandois and Hugh Magnus of France, Leader of the First Crusade in 1096 and a descendant of Charlemagne.

Their son, Roger de Quincey, was Constable of Scotland at the time of his death in 1264. He married Helen McDonal of Galloway, daughter of Alan of Galloway, also named in the Magna Charta, and a descendant of Alfred the Great and the early kings of Scotland.

Next in line was Elizabeth de Quincey, who married Alexander Comyn, Earl of Buchan,

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who died in 1290. She died in 1328. Their daughter, Elizabeth (or Agnes) Comyn married Gilbert de Umfreville, Baron of Umfreville and Earl of Angus.

Their son, Robert de Umfreville, Earl of Angus, died in 1325. He and his second wife, Alianor, had Sir Thomas de Umfreville, of Harbottle Castle, York County, who married Joan de Roddam and had a son, Sir Thomas who died in 1390. He married Agnes de Gray, daughter of Sir Thomas de Gray of Heton.

Their daughter, Joane de Umfreville, married Sir William Lambert. They had Robert Lambert, who in turn sired Henry Lambert. His daughter, Elizabeth, married Thomas Lyman, and they had Henry Lyman, who married Alicia Hude and had John Lyman. He married Phillis Scott, daughter of John Scott of Navistoke, and they had Richard Lyman (1580-1640).

This emigrant ancestor, Richard Lyman, sold his land in the parish of Ongar, County Essex, England, and in August, 1631, embarked with his wife and five children in the ship "Lion" with William Pierce, master. They sailed from Bristol, landed at Boston, and settled first in Charlestown, Mass.

He became a freeman June 11, 1635, and in October joined the party of 100 persons going to Connecticut and became one of the first settlers of Hartford. Eleven generations later, I was born, 25 generations from the ancestor who signed the Magna Charta, the document which changed the outlook for all mankind, keeping alive the memory and spirit of June 15, 1215.

A noted genealogist once said, "A person may not change the intellectual nor spiritual qualities of his or her ancestors, but should try to emulate those that were distinguished. The unrest of the world today is vital reason for holding conscientiously to this proud heritage."

# —Historically Speaking—

Ts JUL 31 1977

Community Affairs File

By Dorothy Clark.

## Interest in genealogy continues to grow daily



Interest in genealogy continues to climb in popularity, and the daily mail brings more and more requests for help in climbing the family tree.

Mrs. Vivian Thomas, Lakin, Kan., wrote to inquire if her ancestor, Ebenezer Paddock Sr., through Henry, James, Silas Perry and Varner S., was originally from Massachusetts or Connecticut. Paddock is one of Vigo County's earliest settlers and a Revolutionary War veteran, as well, having fought in the earlier Dunmore's War.

From West Covina, Calif., came a letter from the great-granddaughter of Levi Swortwood and Sarah Ann Jarvis. She was interested in learning more about their son, Nathan Lewis Swortwood, born in 1865, who married Ella Delila Yeoman here in Vigo County.

Another letter from California asked for information about Benjamin Hawkins, born 1807 in Mason County, Kentucky, who married Mary Jane Seybold in Parke County in 1835.

Their daughter, Henrietta Hawkins, married Morgan Williams, a Civil War veteran, in Clay County. They were both buried in Moss Cemetery, Sugar Ridge Township, after 1872. She wants to know when Benjamin and his wife died, and when Henrietta was married.

Obviously there is a great deal of research afoot by California residents. From Sacramento came a letter from a woman asking if her ancestors, Bernard Lunney and his wife, Lizzie Crume, were married in Terre Haute between 1855 and 1863.

From Fremont came an inquiry about an ancestor, Noah Beauchamp, who married Fannie Randall before 1835. This man was possibly displeased to learn of the unhappy circumstances concerning this branch of the Beauchamp family with a murder and subsequent hanging of Noah. However, all families have their black sheep, illegitimate children, runaway husbands and wives, horse thieves, and, if they go back far enough, even their Salem witches... so what?

A man in Grimes, Iowa, needed help in locating a marriage record for his ancestors, John Wesley Golliday and Dicy Cline. They should have been married here in 1842.

The Rosel family, early Hoosiers, were the object of a search by a man in Irondale, Alab.

A woman in Scio, Ore., was tracking down her great-great-grandfather, Jarvis Briggs and his wife, Aurelia, who were married here in 1840, according to an Oregon Donation Land Claim. People find information on their families in unusual places if they look hard enough.

Another woman in Dustin, Okla., was trying to trace her paternal grandparents, Andrew Shaw, born in 1840 in Marion County, and Hannah Young, born in 1850 in Terre Haute. They were married between 1865 and 1869 in one of the two locations. It seems Hannah was the orphan daughter of Joseph and Sarah Young.

From Somerville, Mass., came a letter asking for information about Alva Sheldon Morton, who married Mary Olive Dillon. The wedding was supposedly performed by Rev. A.V. Hunter on March 29, 1898.

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Anyone having information about any of the genealogical problems mentioned is invited to contact the writer.

Equally as interesting are the letters asking about inanimate objects. For example, the letter from a former resident of Union City, Ind., now living in Sheridan, Wyo. It seems the residents of Sheridan found an old street car out on a ranch and decided to restore it for display during the Bicentennial activities.

A former street car conductor, 81-year-old Joe Driear, was in charge of the project. He was the only living person who worked on the street car line there.

During the repair work, the welder found an inscription on the bumper — "American Car Co., Terre Haute, Ind."

A quick scan of local city directories showed the firm was located about where Stran Steel is now between 1900 and 1930. They manufactured car wheels, cars, castings and forgings. This all goes to prove that Terre Haute products go all over the world and end up in many strange situations.

TS JUN 11 1978

By Dorothy Clark

# Interesting family records provide a look at the past

Community Affairs File



I'm indebted to Dr. Paul J. Bronson for some interesting family records of his wife's family.

Mrs. Paul J. Bronson, the former Frances Mary Donnelly, is the daughter of Leroy Donnelly, who was a cousin of the late Natalie Preston Smith, owner of the Preston House, oldest dwelling house in the city of Terre Haute, located at 14½ and Poplar streets.

One of the early settlers of Terre Haute was Mrs. Charlotte (Abbott) Wood (1737-1875), the widow of John Wood (1783-1830), a captain in the War of 1812.

Their 11 children were Maxwell (1809), medical officer in the U.S. Navy; Charles (1810); a Vandalia Railroad official; G.W. (1812); Dr. John Abbott Wood (1814); Sarah (1817-38), who married National Road engineer William Wood (no relation); child name unknown (1818); Charlotte (1822), who married Nathaniel Preston and moved into the Preston House; Mathilda (1824), who married Pierre Metz Donnelly, a druggist (Mrs. Bronson's ancestor); Martha (1825), who married Samuel R. Hamill; Frances (1827), who married Dr. John Cunningham; Margaret (1829), who married Moses Warner Williams, vice president of the Gas Company; and the last child with the initial "E."

Mrs. Wood arrived in Terre Haute in 1835 with nine of her 11 children, three sons and six daughters, a recent widow.

A native of New Jersey, she married John Wood in 1808, a native of London who had settled in Baltimore.

Because of his military service as captain in the War of 1812, Mrs. Wood received a small pension, but according to her granddaughter, Miss Margaret Preston, who wrote about her grandmother in 1927, her income was very small indeed to rear such a large family.

Reared in southern style luxury with slaves to perform

all household duties, it would seem to be a tremendous handicap for Mrs. Wood, but not so.

Southern women were required to master all the household arts of cooking, cleaning, sewing, spinning, weaving and nursing the ill, in order to teach their slaves to perform their duties properly. Miss Preston recalled seeing her grandmother record the cotton for the renewed comforts.

Being a wonderful cook and used to cooking for a large family, it was only natural that she support her family by taking in boarders.

The National Road was being built through this area, and comfortable boarding houses were in demand.

Eligible young men were necessary when a mother has six daughters approaching marrying age.

One of the young engineers, William D. Wood, a highly educated Scotsman not related to Mrs. Wood's husband, married the eldest daughter, Sarah, who died a year later of typhoid fever.

He later married Ann Reeman, aunt of William Wood Parsons.

Weddings are always interesting, but particularly so in a small town where everybody knew everybody else.

The wedding of Miss Mary Borne and Charles Groverman was long remembered for its unusual wedding cake.

Major Borne, his son, and daughter Mary, lived in a white house on the National Road high on a hill near where Calvary Cemetery is now.

Mary kept house for the family as her mother had passed away before they came here from Kentucky.

The wedding cake was baked at home, as all cakes were in those days, but Miss Mary sent it to the only baker in town who professed to be an artist in cake decorating.

There must have been a break down in communications, however, for when the

cake was sent home, it was well covered with white icing, but on the top were two weeping willow trees made of green sugar sand.

Underneath the trees was a tombstone, also of green sugar sand, inscribed with the words "Charles and Mary Groverman".

The poor little bride shed bitter tears.

She was only 18 years old. The only thing that could be done was to scrape off the graveyard and smooth it over with nice homemade icing, probably much more palatable than weeping

willows and tombstones.

In later years, Mrs. Groverman and her friends had many a laugh reminiscing about that wedding cake.

In September, 1845, the Prestons paid their servant, Louisa, six dollars for the entire month's work.

To contrast food costs, compare these six items with today's prices: prairie hen, pheasant and a dozen cabbages, 50 cents; one turkey, 25 cents; venison ham, 25 cents; one dozen chickens, 62 cents; four pounds butter, 50 cents, and five dozen eggs, 25 cents.

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Community Affairs File

# Rubbing gravestones is popular hobby

This writer has collected unusual tombstone epitaphs for many years. Kind friends copy or photograph interesting examples and send them from their travels all over the world.

More Americans are dedicated hobbyists than one would ever believe. These otherwise normal people collect, with extraordinary diligence and devotion, every object imaginable, from barb-wire cuttings to gold toothpicks.

Gravestone rubbing is a more sophisticated hobby which has developed within the past few years into a form of folklore art.

Rubbing a stone or metal surface to get a reproduction of the characters chiseled or etched thereon is not a new idea. It was originated by the Chinese as early as the 7th century.

They called it "T'apen" or "ink squeezing" which, by the 12th century, had become a method of printing books.

A great interest in early American gravestones, particularly those in New England, has become more than a fad. Primitive art as well as quaint verses and biographical data has been chiseled on these gravestones, which are now recognized as sources of accurate historical records. Rubbing these ancient inscriptions has become a fascinating hobby.

A tombstone in memory of Bethiah Atkins stands in a Cape Cod graveyard whose verse reads:

"Stop here my friends and cast an eye, Consider well that you must die. Wisely conduct that so you may Triumph in Christ at the last day."

## Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

TS AUG 6 1978



Many of the most unusual epitaphs can be found in English church yards. From Devonshire, England, came this one:

"Here lies the remains of James Pady, brickmaker, In hope that his clay will be remoulded in a workmanlike manner, far superior to his former perishable materials."

From Bath Abbey:

"Here lies Anne Mann/She lived an old maid/And died an old Mann."

Found in Cheltenham churchyard was this one:

"It is so soon/ that I am done for/I wonder what/ I was begun for!"

This epitaph was carved in stone for a London cook:

"Peas to his Hashes."

For a Yorkshire cook was carved this epitaph:

"Underneath this crust/Lies the mouldering dust/Of Eleanor Batchelor Shoven/Well versed in the arts/Of pies, custards and tarts/And the lucrative trade of the oven./When she lived long enough,/She made her last puff,/A puff by her husband's much praised,/And now she doth lie/And make a dirt pie,/In hopes that her crust may be raised."

Many old tombstones carry this inscription:

"What wee gave, wee have/What wee spent, wee

missed her/ Had it been the whole generation/ Still better for the nation/ But since 'tis only Fred/ Who was alive, and is dead/ There's no more to be said."

Found on the monument of Abraham Newland, principal cashier of the Bank of England, who died in 1807:

"Beneath this stone old Abraham lies/Nobody laughs and nobody cries/Where he is gone, and how he fares/Nobody knows and nobody cares."

A tombstone stands in the graveyard in Concord, Massachusetts, eulogizing John Jack, an emancipated slave, and which concludes:

"He practiced these

virtues/Without which Kings/Are but slaves."

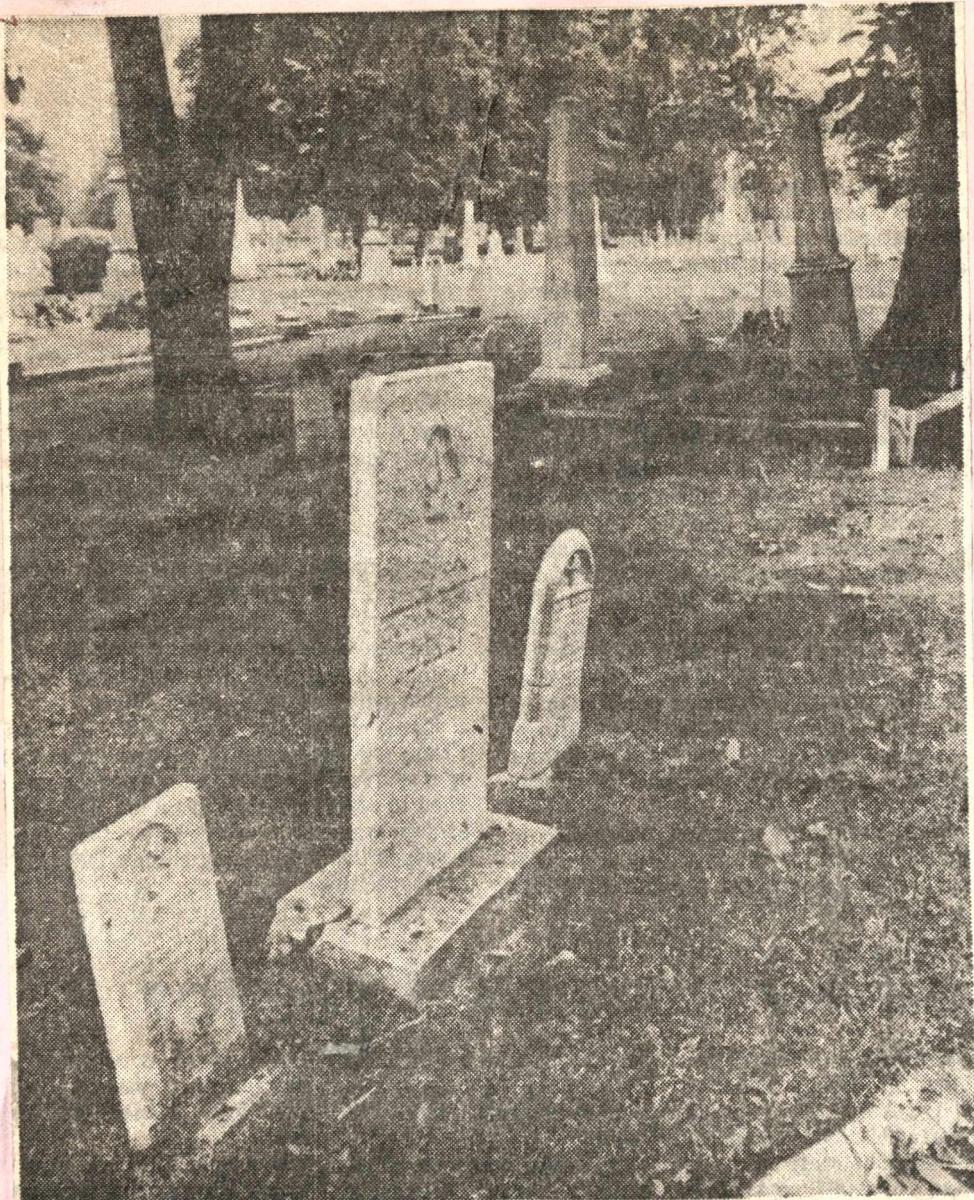
This verse was found on a stone standing in a family burial ground in southern Indiana. It reads:

"Some had children/Some had none/Here lies the Mother/Of only one."

Whether you're into rubbing gravestones, collecting epitaphs, or studying American folklore, you're bound to learn that American history is supported by innumerable and diverse records. Gravestone legends are an important part of them.

This writer would love to receive examples of epitaphs collected by readers on vacation travels.

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**Ancient tombstones found in Woodlawn Cemetery**

House of Photography

# Community Affairs File

# Tracing family history interesting, enjoyable

TS AUG 13 1978

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Continuing to climb in popularity is the fascinating hobby of genealogy, and proof of that statement comes from Richard W. Gibbs, publisher, during his recent visit in Terre Haute from his home in Laconia, N.H.

His loose-leaf, ring-binder complete "How-To-Do-It" kit has been on the market just over a year and has been most successful. Entitled "Family History is Fun," Gibbs' publication would certainly make it much easier for the novice to have fun gathering family records, keeping them in proper order, and understanding the whole process of genealogy.

Climbing your own family tree with this complete genealogical research kit offers a systematic and orderly way to begin research and file materials into one neat workbook that permits the beginner to organize his work even more thoroughly than many of much greater experience.

The sturdy binder exudes quality, according to one authority. No mimeographed sheets stuck in a manila file folder and priced out of sight, this kit contains well-printed forms on quality stock, and the forms are housed in a sturdy binder with built-in pockets. Clear, concise and detailed instructions for tracking down one's forebears are included.

The kit could be extremely helpful to the beginner, and a good gift idea for a genealogist is always welcome. The idea of getting one's notes organized in retrievable condition is the dream of every genealogist. Gibbs' system is so logical one wonders where it has been for years. The kit would also be an attractive gift if you wished to present someone a copy of the family history in a compact form.

Climbing your family tree is fun. It is a lifetime adventure and a very satisfying avocation. It is often like finding clues and working out a puzzle or mystery game.

"Your research will pinpoint names, dates and places," according to Gibbs, "but it will also reveal a human history that is rich, funny, poignant, inspirational, and occasionally risque; far more eloquent and moving than a best-selling novel and infinitely more meaningful to you."

Gibbs states in his Introduction that "A well-organized genealogical record is a family treasure. It becomes a legacy and an irreplaceable contribution to later generations in your family. Regardless of your experience with family history research, this kit is designed to help you, in simple fashion, to organize and document your work so that others may follow in your footsteps, and so you will always be able to find and use what you have."

The author of "Roots," Alex Haley, has stated that "In all of us there is a hunger, marrow deep, to know our heritage—to know who we are and where we have come from. Without this enriching knowledge, there is a hollow yearning. No matter what our attainments in life, there is still a vacuum, an emptiness, and the most disquieting loneliness."

This new family tree kit is available locally at Campbell's Book Shop and the Readmore, and sells for \$14.95.

# Genealogy



Community Affairs

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Ts OCT 1 1978

Amateur genealogists should learn very early that they can't take family tradition for "fact." Family tradition is much like the childhood game of "Gossip." If you remember, it's the game where children sit in a circle and one whispers something to the one next to him — and he whispers it to the next, and so on.

By the time the message gets around the circle, it's usually nothing like the original statement. And that's the way it is with family tradition. You can figure it has some basis of truth, but you must accept it with reservations. You must later prove whether it is fact.

Try to learn where the family lived at given times, and where the family originated. And try especially to find where they were living in the 1880's.

After learning all you can from family members, you're ready to start "searching" for your ancestors. Up to now, the 1880 Census of the United States was particularly important. It still is, of course, but now the 1900 Census has become available. In fact, the Vigo County Historical Society has ordered it for the State of Indiana from the Madge Townsley Will Bequest and it will be placed in the Vigo County Public Library as soon as it arrives.

## QUERIES

**ORR-PEYTON** — Any information about the parents, brothers and sisters of Priscilla Ann Peyton, b. 28 June, 1861 in Terre Haute, who m. 10 Oct., 1878 in Coles Co., Ill., George Merchant Orr, and d. 17 June, 1898 in Kingman Co., Kans., is needed by her granddaug Ferril Janice Orr Wise (Mrs. John B.), Box 21A, RR 2, Highway 283 South, Hill City, KS 67642.

**BUTLER** — Needs information about gr.gr.parents Israel and Rebecca Butler who lived in Parke and Putnam counties from 1830's until 1880's. Thomas Butler, the fourth or fifth of 13 children, was b. 1830 in Parke Co. At time of Israel's death in 1850, family was living in Putnam Co near Clinton Falls. Where is he buried? Who were his parents? Rebecca was b. 1809 in Ky. What was her maiden name? She d. 1893 in Kansas. Contact Mrs. Ralph C. Wentz, 1021 S. Fifth St., Leavenworth, KS 66048.

**CHANCE** — Wishes to exchange info on Chance family. Tilghman (or Pitman) Chance, son of Purnall Chance, m. Nancy Hicks in Owen Co., Ind. in 1819; moved later to Clay Co. Chance family supposedly came to Ind. from Del. Contact Mrs. Joseph E. Chance, R.D. 1, Box 141, Liberty, PA. 16930.

**ROBERTSON-MITCHELL** — Seeking information on Charles W. Robertson (Robinson, Robeson) who m. 1840-45 Eliza Ann Mitchell (or Lucinda Mitchell or Mollenix) in Vigo Co. Contact Mrs. Duane Kaufman, 2117 S. Harlan St., Denver, CO 80227.

**RAY** — A descendant of William Ray, Revolutionary War soldier, is interested in corresponding with other descendants. A gr.mother Diademia Thompson b. 1872 was dau. of William and Artematia (Ray) Thompson. Artematia b. 1818 in Riley Twp., Vigo Co. Contact Carol Ames, 6887 Cardwell, Garden City, Mich. 48135.

**MARKLE** — According to an old family Bible, Jessie Bright Markle b. 1856 and Lizzie Markle b. 1854 were children of Bone(Bonaparte) Markle and his wife Mollie A. Needs further information on grf. Jesse B. Markle, his first marriage and child, before his 2nd m. 1885 in T.H. to Carrie Keys b. 1865, dau of Sarah Keys; gr.dau of Jake and Fannie Keys. Fannie d. 1884 age 77, reportedly part Indian. Contact Mrs. John N. McCauley, 4638 S. Hanna Fort Wayne, IN 46806.

REFERENCE  
Community Affairs File DO NOT CIRCULATE

Vigo County Public Library

# Genealogy



By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Ts OCT 15 1978

If the amateur genealogist has been lucky enough to pick up the county in which his family resided, he has a definite starting point. Remember, even if you know the Town in which they lived, you still must determine the County. Then you start searching county records for information about your family.

The county seat of any county has the marriage records, deeds, wills and other documents. That is, unless you run into trouble and find, for instance, the Court House had a fire at sometime and no early records are available for that county.

In such an event, your next step is to check the adjoining counties to see if there are any records of your family there. You should do this anyhow. Remember, transportation was a problem in early days and people didn't run to the Court House each time they had something to record at the county seat. Usually they waited until they were going in the direction of a Court House and took the papers with them at that time. That's why you occasionally find a family's documents recorded in a county adjoining the one in which they lived. The Court House of the adjoining county might have been on their way to market, or where they were taking someone to catch a boat or train.

It was a common occurrence in the Terre Haute greater area for couples to come to Terre Haute to get married from all the surrounding counties and even from Illinois. Especially after the present Vigo County Court House was built in 1884. The honeymoon trip frequently included the climb up to the tower to see the surrounding countryside—a never-to-be-forgotten event of nearly a century ago.

However, the tables turned in the 1920's and many Terre Haute couples drove over to Marshall and Paris, Ill. to get married. So, records are where one looks to find them. Those families living near state lines could have records on either side of the line. Also remember, where a person died might have been while visiting and there would be no local death record. Obituaries can be found in old newspapers and church records. And persons were sometimes buried in unlikely places because of marriage into another family, etc. It's a puzzle!

## QUERIES

THOMAS — Seeking relatives or family of Greenbury Thomas who m. 17 April, 1877 Mattie Haney in Vigo County; lived 1877-78 at 1530 Main St.

Also seeking family of Martha Thomas who m. 1 July, 1879 William Stevens in Vigo County; had son Oscar Stevens who m. 24 Oct. 1912, Matilda Randall. Oscar at one time lived in West Terre Haute; worked at the C&EI freight office. Contact: Mrs. A. W. Thomas, Cory, IN 47846.

HOWARD — Trying to sort out the Howard family who lived in Otter Creek Twp., Vigo Co., Ind., and Freeport, Ill. areas before moving west. Some of family bur. in Union Cemetery. Line runs from grf. Cornelius Fredrick Howard (1858-1953); gr.grf. John (1825-1913); gr.gr.grf. Cornelius, veteran War of 1812 in Ohio. Contact: Darrell I. Howard, 1727 E. 15th Ave., Spokane, WA 99203.

KIRCHNER — Collectible match holders were distributed to the public as advertising gimmicks of the bakery run by Peter Kirchner, Seventh Street and Lafayette Avenue. Does anyone know when and exactly where it was? Contact: Mrs. Robert Ash, 1012 Seventh Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47807.

INSULATORS — Does anyone have any knowledge of antique insulators made in Terre Haute by the Universal Porcelain Manufacturers? This collectible item was found with the brand name applied. Contact: James L. Teegarden, 2306 Oak St., Terre Haute, IN 47803.

Readers are invited to send queries of 50 words to Genealogy, Mrs. Dorothy J. Clark, Tribune-Star, 721 Wabash Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47808. Limit queries to one person, couple or family with a specific Indiana or Illinois (preferably Wabash Valley) connection.

# Genealogy



Community Affairs File

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

13 OCT 22 1978

If you find your family lived in a particular area for several years, check sources such as Church Records, Newspapers, County Histories. I've indexed all five of the county histories for Vigo County and realize their potential and hazards. Remember, many county histories were subscription publications — the resident paid to have his biographical sketch included, more dollars if his picture accompanied it. Naturally, only flattery and good deeds were recorded, so look on county histories as clues not facts.

Your research is aided also by Genealogical Books written by members of other families who lived in your area of research. You might find they were close friends of or intermarried with your family.

An example of this resource material is the well-written "Pound and Kester" family genealogy. It is so well indexed and complete, it is a useful tool for other families in the area who intermarried with this overwhelmingly large and far-flung pioneer family.

Check also in published books about families of the same name as yours. You might find your family is related to one of these families. Often an author has some "lost twigs" on his family tree — a family member he wasn't able to identify or trace. And you, by noting the approximate ages, places of birth, and given names of children, might find some of your ancestors "fit in" and are his "lost twigs" or "missing links."

## QUERIES

**HARRIS** — This inquiry from out of state, was inspired by Thelma Walters of the Friendship Baptist Church near Farmersburg, Ind. She had tried to help the people when they were here last summer searching for the grave of the gr.grm. America Harris, wife of Benjamin J. Harris, both born in Ky., he in 1810, she in 1815, and probably m. there. She was listed in the 1860-Sullivan Co.census, and d. before 1868. Contact: Enid Harris Ostertag, 3005 Charles, St. Joseph, MO 64501.

**POTTER** — Need information about John Potter Jr. who m. 1834 Elizabeth Skidmore, Helt's Prairie, Vermillion Co., Ind. Early death records were destroyed by fire; last listing in census, 1860. Did he come from Ohio? Contact: Mrs. Milo E. Heskett, R.R.1,Clinton,IN 47842.

**HAZLETT** — Trying to locate parents of George Washington Hazlett, b. 19 Feb.,1865, in Terre Haute; m. 21 Jan.,1886, Mary Serena Frances Eddy of Buckner, Ark. Contact: Mrs. Bill Huffman,101 Ormond Blvd., Apt. 5A, La Place, LA 70068.

**BLACK** — Seeking information on Thomas Black who is buried in a family cemetery located in Sugar Creek Twp., called "Black Cemetery." Probably his wife and some of his children are interred there also. Any family information would be appreciated. Contact: Herbert H. Black, 3909 N.E. 8th St.,Ocala, FLA 32670.

Limit queries to 50 words if possible. Each query should be confined to one person, one couple or family and have a specific Indiana or Illinois (preferably Wabash Valley) connection. There is no charge. Send queriesto: Genealogy, Mrs. D.J.Clark,Tribune-Star,721 Wabash Ave.,Terre Haute, IN 47808.

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

# Climbing 'family trees' is increasingly popular

The increased volume of mail concerning people's growing interest in climbing family trees is more apparent with each passing day. Whether or not "Roots" had anything to do with it is debatable.

One wrote from Philadelphia concerning his search for his wife's ancestors. The daughter of the late Dr. Frank Paddock, former head and founder of the Department of Political Science at Temple University there, her grandparents were Scott and Ida (Hicks) Paddock. Her great-grandfather was Jonathan Paddock, born 1825, the second son of John, 1802-1851, and his wife, Leathy, who died in 1835. They married

in 1822. The Paddock family had lived in Prairie Creek several generations and according to tradition was descended from an early New England family.

From Watonga, Oklahoma, came a letter asking for information on Mary Hamilton, 1838-1921, who married in 1857 Buel Wm. Stephens, 1834-1922. Family records show that Mary was born near Terre Haute. The couple died in Memphis, Missouri.

A request for information on Johnston Rosel (or Rossell) was addressed to the "Department of Matrimony" and forwarded on to me for answer. The great-great-grandson of

this man lives in Irondale, Alabama. He was seeking his ancestor's marriage record.

A resident of Seattle, Washington, needs to locate his ancestors, Henry and Elizabeth Jackson, who came to Terre Haute around 1866 or 1867 from Philadelphia with their children.

Family tradition has it that Henry died around 1870, and his widow moved to Sioux City, Iowa.

An interesting family account came from Mrs. Myra Esarey Evans, Albuquerque, N.M. She wrote, "My Revolutionary ancestor, John Essery, Essera, Esrey, Esarey, or what have you, was born in Pennsyl-

## Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

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or he may have returned to the Forster homestead in Illinois, or gone to the Jesse Esrey homestead in Missouri. I'm not sure when Jesse left Illinois for Missouri."

Mrs. Evans would like to know where her John Esarey is buried. Her uncle, the well-known Logan Esarey, was interested in the old gentleman, but was too busy putting all his nieces and nephews through college and became ill and died in 1942 before he completed the story.

what was left of it.

"Old John gathered up his three younger children and started for the lead mines, I suppose. At least he got there in Missouri, leaving one girl who married a Shinn or Shimm Hill in Terre Haute (they say), her third marriage, I think.

"John's wife died in 1828 at this girl's house (we think). Could she be buried there anywhere?

"The other two children he took across the Wabash where he married them to Forsters, brother and sister... The old Indian fighter went on to Missouri to the lead mines at Joplin."

"He may have died at Joplin,

A correspondent in Chula Vista, Calif., is seeking her ancestors in Sullivan County, Ind. According to the 1820

census, Abner Vicory had eight sons and three daughters. One of the descendants was Lizzie (probably Elizabeth) Vicory, born 1857, in Merom, Ind. She died in 1942 at the age of 84 in Lansing, Mich. She married Edward Pierce in Indianapolis in 1886. She was the youngest of five girls in her family, and whether or not there were brothers is unknown. Does anyone have knowledge of this Vicory family?

Mrs. Theo. Zobrist of this city would like to know more about her great-grandfather, Samuel L. Clark, who was born in Terre Haute. He married twice and had a total of nine children. His first family included Asa (or Ace), her maternal grandfather, John, Jim, Charles, Bob and Anna. The second group were Nell, Lizzie, Lula and Sam.

Anyone having knowledge of this family is invited to contact Mrs. Zobrist, 1729 N. 6 1/2 St., Terre Haute, Ind. 47804.

A family tree climber in Escondido, California, is look-

ing for information on her Benight and Hale families.

It seems Lucy Autumn (Ann) Hale, born in 1840 in Terre Haute, married here before the Civil War to Albert Clayton Benight. Local records show both families settled in Vigo county in Prairie Creek township and many are buried in New Harmony Cemetery south of Terre Haute.

A Detroit gentleman found in the census records that his great-grandmother, Sattie (Hedden) Moers was born in Terre Haute in 1859. Her parents were Aaron R. Hedden and Maria Van Sep.

He was hoping he could locate a marriage record or other information on this family to further his line.

Anyone having information on these problems is invited to contact the writer at 2032 N. 8th St., Terre Haute, Ind. 47804. (Editor's Note: For more information on family trees, see the Genealogy column in the Living section of this issue of the Tribune-Star.)

*Mary J. Clark*

A forest of Faiths, Fentons, Plunketts et al

# More leaves on family trees

Last month's column on the subject of genealogy and the mail received from those seeking help with tracing their family trees engendered so much interest that this column will continue the subject. Keep those cards and letters rolling in, folks!

A gentleman living in Red Lion, Pennsylvania, is searching for ancestors in Vigo county. He found Presley and Catherine Faith in the 1840 census. At that time, they had seven children, three boys aged ten to fifteen, one boy under five, two girls under five, and one girl, ten to fifteen.

Mortality schedules show that both died in 1850 in Vigo county. Presley was born in 1805 in Kentucky, and Catherine in Ohio in the same year. Three of their children, Martha, William and Charles, ages 13, 10 and 6, were all born in Indiana. By 1850, the children were living in the home of Isaac Wood in Otter Creek township.

Local records show a Charles Faith married Keziah Fenton in 1865. His brother, William, married Sarah Trader in 1867.

A gentleman who lives in Sun Valley, California, also is hunting his great-great-grandmother, Clarissa Caroline Plunkett.

It seems a Daniel Thompson married Carrie C. Wesner (or Westner) in 1854 in Sullivan county. He was killed in the Civil War, and his widow married Daniel Plunkett in 1867 in Sullivan county.

Their daughter, Clarissa Caroline, was born in Terre Haute, so the Plunketts must have moved here after 1867. She married Alfred S. Braiman in 1885 in Lyndon, Osage county, Kansas, so the family had moved away from Terre Haute by then. She also had a half-brother, Alonzo Thompson, from her mother's first marriage.

If anyone knows any more about this family's early history, the writer would relay the information.

A Modesto, California, resident is seeking her great-great-grandparents, Jacob and Susan Boos, who were supposed to have been married in Terre Haute in 1830.

Jacob was born in Germany in 1805, and came to America in 1822. Naturalization records might be helpful in this case, and can be obtained by writing to the Bureau of Immigration & Naturalization, P.O. Building, Room 111, Hammond, Ind.

A real puzzler came from Monroe, Oregon. This person was researching the Robert Lincoln family. According to the census, he was born in 1804 in Vermont, and was in Randolph county, Illinois, in 1850 where he died in 1852.

His wife was Elenor Lockhart, born 1819 in Ohio, and their first son, James, born 1839, was the correspondent's great-grandfather. He told his children about his father living at Gooseneck Pond in Vigo county, Indiana, where he owned a jigsaw mill.

James died in 1928 in Oregon. He married his wife, Zuleeka Brown, in Union City, Iowa, in 1882. Their three children, all born in Illinois, were Hiram, born 1842; Levi, born 1844, and John, born 1847.

All the old maps and atlases were thoroughly searched and the whereabouts of Gooseneck Pond is still a mystery. There's a strong possibility that he misread the census too. Lincolns were much more prevalent in Virginia than in Vermont.

A Vallejo, California, resident's letter addressed to the local Chamber of Commerce was forwarded on to me for answer. His great-grandfather, Edward Starr Harrison, was born in Terre Haute in 1851.

Family tradition had it that he was the son of George M. Harrison, the first mayor of Terre Haute, and a descendant of President William Henry Harrison.

My files show a George Harrison, son of Brittain (or Britton) M. Harrison, an early Terre Haute mayor, but not the first. Elijah Tillotson was the first mayor in 1838, when B. M. Harrison was elected Town Marshal. When Tillotson resigned in August, the vacancy was filled by Dr. Marcus Hitchcock until June, 1839, when he resigned. Harrison was elected in June, 1839, re-elected in January, 1840, '41, '42 and '43 when the office was abolished Feb. 9, 1843 and the duties passed to the President of the Common Council.

When the city was incorporated, William K. Edwards was elected City Mayor on May 30, 1852. In 1855, B.M. Harrison was a city councilman.

Harrison married Adaline Allen, daughter of early settler Peter B. Allen in 1828. They had three children, George, Porter and Edward. Both Allen and Harrison arrived in Terre Haute in 1819.

A graduate student at ISU, Jerry

Marver, acquired some old family papers at a local sale and passed them on to the Historical Society. Among them was a letter written in 1890 by Oscar K. Lyle, Brooklyn, N.Y., to Lyle G. Adair, of Terre Haute, in which the Lyle family was outlined for five generations.

Emigrant ancestor, John Lyle, was a Scotch-Irishman who settled in Virginia about 1740 and married Jean (last name unknown). One of their children, a daughter, Elizabeth Lyle, married Samuel Ramsey. Their daughter, Margaret Ramsey, married George Adair. Their son, Benjamin Adair, married Nancy

*(fwd)*  
Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

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# Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

Templin, whose son was Terre Hautean, Lyle G. Adair.

Also found among the documents were school promotion certificates and Yearly grade records of Josie Adair who finished the eighth grade in 1887, and Kate Adair who was promoted to the Terre Haute High School in 1883. The marriage license of John Michael Freitag and Katie Templin Adair was issued here Sept. 21, 1892.

Other family papers included stock certificates, paid-up promissory notes, a long poem and letters to



TS NOV 19 1978

Grandma with swatches of calicoes enclosed to show what new dresses would look like. This historian urges everyone to think twice before they discard or burn old family papers, etc. Much local history and family genealogy is lost this way. Call this writer before, not after, to avoid losing interesting, irreplaceable items.

**Editor's Note:** For still more information on local family trees, see the Genealogy column in the LIVING section of this issue of the Tribune-Star.

## Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark



Ts DEC 3 1978

*also Rhyan Family & Shepherd Family*

# Living memories from graveyards tell of early area people, life

Opal Funkhouser, rural West Terre Haute, has long been interested in the care and restoration of the old cemeteries in her area, especially Fayette township. Some of the graveyards are well over a century old, most of them contain Civil War veterans as well as those from earlier and later wars, and a great many of her ancestors are buried there after helping settle the area.

The Shepherd Cemetery is located in the southwest corner of Section 4, Township 13, Range 9, in Fayette Twp. The earliest burial there was probably James H. Nelson, aged 38, in 1854. Next was Frederick Groves, age 80, in 1856. His wife, Polly, died in 1870, aged 82 years.

Merideth Shores, 1806-69, and his wife, Frankie L., 1813-1910, are buried there.

In 1870, Aretus B. Gould, age 51, was interred, and three years later his wife, Maranda M. Jane Moore, 1830-71, and her husband, William Moore, 1826-76, have rested there over a century. As has James Washington Shepherd, 1809-75. His wife, Cathern Anne, 1810-80, followed him five years later. Fielden and Esther Shepherd both died in 1888, aged 71 and 70 years.

J. Shirley and his wife, Mary, were buried in 1877. John Rhyan, 1800-79, and his wife, Winnie, 1802-84; Henry Rhyan, 1805-88, and Margaret, 1810-85; and Benjamin Mallory, 1813-85, and Margaret, 1820-87, were all buried there before the turn of the

century.

Also, J. A. and Margaret (Graham) Joseph, 1827-88; Alex Pugh, who died in 1890, aged 68, and his wife, Nancy, who died 1902, aged 75; and Jacob Cobble, 1824-1901, and his wife, Sarah J., 1828-91.

The tombstone of Wolsey B. McCullough, 1815-1910, shows only that his wife, Mary F., was born in 1842.

John N. Rhyan, 1830-1900, and his wife, Barbara J. Hay, 1830-1916, are buried there. As are William T. Pittenger who died in 1914, aged 89, and his wife, Harriet M., who died 1894, aged 63.

One of the Vigo County histories has some errors in the Shepherd family biographical sketches, but whether or not the Henry Shepherd who advertised his hat store in the 1830 local newspaper was one of this family or not is not known. Henry advertised "all sorts and sizes of hats for sale, wholesale or retail, at Pittsburgh prices, which subscriber guarantees to be waterproof...beaver, otter, muskrat and mink furs taken in exchange." These were the old-fashioned bell-crown, fur felt, men's hats.

An 1830 marriage license was issued in Vigo county to Hugh Shepherd and Susan Adams.

Two of the sons of James W. and Cathern Ann (Clapp) Shepherd could afford to have their biographical sketches published in one of the county histories. They were J. N. Shepherd and Edgar M. Shepherd.

James W., born in Kentucky of Scotch-Irish descent, was an early citizen of Vigo county. A cabinet maker who spent most of his life as a farmer, he helped build the first frame house in Terre Haute in 1817.

His wife, Cathern Anne Clapp, a native of Ohio and of English descent, lived for a time in Fort Harrison after her arrival in Vigo county. Of their eleven children, eight lived to maturity.

One son, Edgar M. Shepherd, born 1842, owned the farm where he was born in Fayette township. In 1881, he had opened a coal mine on his property near New Goshen and had become financially well off.

He enlisted in the Civil War in 1862 and served in Company K, Thirty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry. In 1867, he married Mary Hovey, daughter of Zelotus and Jemima (Armstrong) Hovey, of German and English descent. Their children were W. R., who never married; Katie A., who married Herman Dreher; and Eunia V., who married Edward Lapworth.

Another son of James W. and Cathern A. Shepherd was J. Nelson Shepherd, Vigo County Treasurer 1865-69, who lived in Terre Haute. He was born in Fayette township in 1838.

In 1861, he also enlisted in Co. K, 31st Ind. Vol. Inf., and was wounded Feb. 15, 1862 at Fort Donelson and discharged at the end of the year. He farmed until 1884, when he ran successfully for the county office, and

was re-elected in 1866. After trying stock raising for ten years, he next took up dairying and gardening until March, 1888 when he purchased a livery stable in Terre Haute.

In 1863, he married Arminda O. Rhyan, daughter of Henry and Margaret (Shuey) Rhyan, natives of Virginia who came here in 1835. Mr. Rhyan was a cooper and a farmer.

Mrs. Shepherd, sixth in a family of eight, was born in 1844.

J.N. and Arminda had nine children, Clara E., who married Rev. J.W. Connell; Maggie K., wife of Nelson B. Borden; Rolla H., who died in 1965 at the age of 97; William J., Orilla, Della, Myrtle, Floy and Nellie E.

Volney P. Hutchinson, the first Mason in Fayette Twp., and his wife, Mary J. (Armstrong) Hutchinson, are both buried in Shepherd Cemetery.

Mrs. Funkhouser noted that her Grandfather Lenderman's ledger for 1851 shows postage was ten cents. Other prices included indigo, ten ounces for a dollar, madder at twenty cents a pound, and a saddle girth for a quarter.

*Maps and surveys back to 1818*

# Vigo surveyor or assessor has information on family lands, farmsteads and homes

If it's information on family lands, farmsteads and homes you want, then the best place to begin searching is in the office of the county surveyor or assessor. Maps and surveys going back to Vigo County's founding in 1818 will be found in the court house.

Here, too, you might find an old hand-drawn survey map showing the boundaries of your great-grandparent's farm before it was divided up among the children, who then divided it again for your parents.

Survey maps may help find old roads, sites where barns and farm houses once stood, or family burial grounds hidden away in a small stand

of trees. In the same office, you might also be able to search and read old wills and deeds which often describe features of the land and vanished structures.

Old atlases for Vigo county show what the county looked like in 1874, 1876, 1890s and 1900s. Maps for each township show farms, schools, churches, burying grounds, roads, railroads, etc.

Larger in scale, and more helpful in other ways, are topographic maps, which show very small sections of the earth in relief and, with color and symbols, physiographic features such as woodlands, orchards, marshes, vineyards, dunes, and water courses.

You'll want to obtain the largest-scale map you can for the area, preferably a 7½-minute map (which means that the map covers a square or quadrangle seven and a half minutes latitude by seven and a half minutes longitude).

One inch on this map equals about two thousand feet on the ground and is of large enough scale that you might discover an abandoned narrow-gauge railway, a blacksmith shop, an old mining site, a pioneer cemetery, or the quarry from which your ancestors took stone for their houses. Symbols also show the location of schools and churches, small masonry dams (an old mill site?), mine dumps, windmills, footbridges and village sites.

Topographic maps are available from government map stores in large cities, wilderness camping equipment shops, or by mail from the Map Information Office, U.S. Geological Survey, Washington, D.C. 20242.

You might begin by requesting a free index map for the state you're researching, showing which maps are available, their names, and whether they are in the 7½-minute or 15-minute series. And, while you're at it, request a copy of "Topographic Maps", a little booklet explaining map scale, the different series, and topo map symbols.

## Historically Speaking

TS DEC 10 1978

By Dorothy Clark



For historical searchers in cities there are Sanborn maps, some going back to the 1850s. Sanborn large-scale maps (one inch on the map equals 50 to 400 feet on the ground, depending on the scale) show with color and symbols all kinds of details.

Buildings are shown to scale and are color coded to indicate type of construction—adobe, stone, brick, iron, wood frame, or concrete block—with symbols to record particular details such as lofts, skylights, water tanks, and door construction.

On one of these maps you might find an historical church, a row of sheds along an alley once housing a machine shop, a stable now being used as a garage, a wagon shed, or a long-forgotten walkway. Older maps will show cemeteries, which may be only vacant lots now, or a row of old wood frame buildings dating back to the last century.

Maps from successive surveys will show the growth of city limits and how it happened that your great-great-grandparent's orchard is now right in the middle of downtown.

Sanborn has mapped most of the communities in the U.S. with a population of 2,500 or more and sells its maps to city, county, and state offices, as well as to libraries. If maps are not available to you at one of these sources and you'd like to know when and if your county has been mapped, then write to Sanborn Map Co., 629 5th Ave., Pelham, N.Y. 10803.

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

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(Area)

Maps can provide the historical archaeologist and local historian with all kinds of leads on the location of building sites, old mills and shops, small graveyards, barns, ghost towns, bridges, and historical markers.

These maps are readily available and inexpensive, even free if your local library maintains a collection of maps for the area. Some of the most helpful maps are also the most common: survey maps inserted in old editions of local histories, "topo" maps, and Sanborn maps. City and county directories frequently contain maps, but many have been removed by a former owner and lost in the shuffle. Each has a special value to the historian.

Maps are difficult to store, and don't take well to constant folding and unfolding. The best solution is rolling them into cardboard tubes, labeling them, and storing on an out-of-the-way shelf or in a trunk. Frequently used maps can be placed under a glass top on a table or desk. Explore the world of maps and learn!

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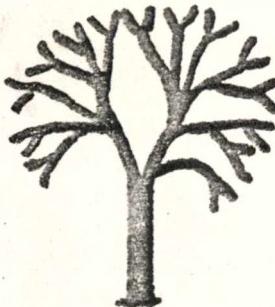
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TS DEC 17 1978  
*Genealogy*

Community Affairs File

By DOROTHY J. CLARK



A great deal of information can be found in church records. And, if your ancestor belonged to a religious group such as the Catholic or Episcopalian, you have little trouble in locating the records since they are considered as belonging to the Church.

However, if your ancestor belonged to the Baptist, Methodist, or other like group, your problem in locating the church records is greater. These religious groups consider the records as primarily those of the Minister, so you usually have to locate where a particular minister's papers were deposited and check there. Sometimes the minister's records are still held by his family.

The college of a particular religious body can obtain information for you regarding church records. For instance, a Baptist College can help you locate the records of one of its churches in a given area. But we have yet to discover where the Church of Christ deposits material relating to their no-longer-operating churches, or if such material is maintained anywhere.

## QUERIES

**WESTNER-WESNER** — Mrs. William Patton, Paris, Ill., sends information found in Uncle Jack Baber's *EARLY HISTORY OF GREENE COUNTY, IND.* to help the Westner-Wesner family seeker. David Wesner entered land in 1819; George Westner was appointed a lister for Plummer Twp., Greene Co., and Andrew Slinkard in 1822 Mary Westner. According to the 1840 census, George Wesner and John Wesner were listed in Greene Co., and Jacob Wesner in Wahington Co., Ind. None of name Westner were listed.

**KIRCHNER** — Mrs. Robert Ash, 1012 Seventh Ave., sends an update on her "antique" matchbox advertising the Kirchner Bakery in Twelve Points. She visited with Mr. and Mrs. Ott Kirchner, 1542 Fourth Ave. He was the youngest of 12 children; Pete, the bakery owner, was the second oldest. Ott started working there at age 14 in 1908. He will be remembered as the Santa Claus at Meadows Center from 1965-70, and prior to that at St. Ann's Orphange, near Fifth Avenue and North Thirteenth Street.

**DICKERSON** — Seeking information on ancestor Walter Dickerson, b. 1757, Rev. soldier from Morris Co., N.J. Contact: Cecile Guise, 9000 Stoneleigh Court, Fairfax, VA 22031.

**POUND** — Descendant of the Pound family wishes to purchase a copy of *POUND & KESTER FAMILIES* by Hunt. Contact: Mrs. Carl G. Imke, P.O. Box 203, N. Bloomfield, Ohio 44450.

**OKES-OAKES** — Needs any information on descendants of Noah Okes in May, 1850 Elizabeth Carson, Sullivan Co., Ind.; Daniel Oakes in May, 1850 Elizabeth Fisher, Vigo Co., Ind.; John B. Okes m. 1859 Ary Adny Sparks, Sullivan Co.; Benj. F. (or L.) 16 years old 1850s, children of Samuel and Cathrine Bridwell Okes. Contact: Violet Okes Clark, 1329 S. Eighth St., Terre Haute, IN 47802.

Limit queries to 50 words if possible. Each query should be confined to one person, one couple or family and have a specific Indiana or Illinois (preferably Wabash Valley) connection. There is no charge. Send queries to **GENEALOGY**, Mrs. Dorothy J. Clark, Tribune-Star, 721 Wabash Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47808.

SUNDAY, MAY 13, 1979

*Clark, Dorothy J.*

Community Affairs File

# Latest from 'the late' . . .

Vacation trips are never complete without looking for and finding unusual tombstone inscriptions in out-of-the-way old cemeteries and family graveyards. The following are the latest additions to my collection of epitaphs:

Remember me as you pass by.  
As you are now, so once was I.  
As I am now, so you must be.  
Prepare for death and follow me.

With men he was a man  
With God he was a child.

Rom.XIV 13: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

Blessed are the pure in spirit for they shall see God.

Little Hazel budded on earth to bloom in Heaven.

Willie we have missed you.  
Thy loss we deeply feel.

Yet again we hope to meet thee  
Where no farewell tears are shed.

The Lord gave and the Lord taketh away.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

A friend of man, a friend of truth  
Support of age, a guide to youth  
If there is another world, he lives in bliss

If there is none, he made the best of this.

It is well with my soul.

He was a dutiful son  
Gave promise of being useful in the ministry

And died in the full confidence  
Of a blissful immortality.

We miss thy kind and willing hand  
Thy fond and earnest care  
Our home is dark without thee  
We miss thee everywhere.

## Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

To MAY 13 1979



Speak gently, tread softly  
No word must be said  
Our house is all lonely  
Our Harry is dead.

A loving husband, a father dear,  
A faithful friend lies buried here.

Heaven has gained  
We have lost.

Gone, but not forgotten.

On earth and in health  
We bade her adieu  
After a short absence  
We met her cold in death.

Died on the field of battle  
'Twas noble thus to die  
God smiles on valiant soldiers  
His record is on high.

Such is man  
From earth he came  
Earth doth her own  
Poor dust reclaim.

God gave  
He took  
He will restore He doeth all things well.

Free from all earthly cares  
Free from all earthly stain  
Who could wish him back again.

He is gone, the funeral rites are o'er  
Smooth down the broken sod  
His face on earth we see no more  
His soul is with his God.

Earth counts a mortal less  
Heaven an angel more.

Dear son George  
Soon shall we meet again  
Meet never to sever  
Soon will peace wreath her chain  
And bind us forever.

Weep not, dear parents  
Disturb not my rest  
My Savior has called me  
He loved me best.

In the early days, medical students found it difficult to obtain cadavers for their anatomy studies and resorted to body snatching. The whole practice of body snatching is well epitomized by an epitaph found on a gravestone in the East:

The bodysnatchers, they have come and made a snatch of me.

It is very hard—them kind of men won't let a body be.

Don't come to weep upon my grave and think that here I be,  
They haven't left an atom here of my anatomy.

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Community Affairs File

# Lots of plots allotted until Woodlawn

TS MAY 27 1979

Early burials in Terre Haute were made rather promiscuously and records exist of several separate localities. The quarter block east and north from the corner of Sixth and Ohio was frequently used for the purpose, and a stone denoting a grave once stood at the intersection of Seventh and Walnut before Chauncey Rose opened his subdivision east of Seventh Street.

The original plat of the outlots of the town dedicated Outlot 3 for burying purposes, and it was used until it was so filled in 1839 that burials were forbidden by an ordinance.

In October, 1838, the Town Council appointed a committee to apply to the trustees of the school section for land on which to locate a cemetery. This lay west of Seventh between Locust and Maple Avenue.

The committee included Septer Patrick, Samuel Crawford, Chauncey Rose, James Ross, Curtis Gilbert, John Britton, James Farrington and Lucius H. Scott. They were instructed to look for eight to 12 acres and report back to the council.

On Nov. 6, the committee reported that they could procure suitable land, but that the price had not been set. Mr. Gilbert and John F. Cruff were appointed to purchase the lots if the price was reasonable. They reported Jan. 7, 1839, they had attended the sale and bought lots 37, 38, 47 and 48, containing 12 and 40 hundredths acres for \$620, payable one-fourth in advance and the balance on a credit of 10 years with interest at six percent, payable annually in advance.

They presented the certificate

Cemetery (Vigo Co.)

## Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark



acre for the respective lots, it is evident that the timber on the lots was not equal.

These lots comprise the south end of Woodlawn Cemetery, and the first to be used, number 47, is the one in the southeast corner. John Chestnut had agreed to erect the fence for a dollar a panel. For the board fence and gate, Joseph Cooper was to get \$180 and gave his bond for the work.

Dille seems to have done most of his work by April 1, for on that day he was paid \$49 and a month later another \$11 for trimming trees and grubbing out stumps. Also Cooper was paid for the board fence May 1 and a week later Cruff was allowed \$6.15 for blue grass seed to be sown on the yard. On May 17, the council formally designated the cemetery and made it unlawful for any further interments to be made in the old burying grounds, Indian Orchard, where Pillsbury parking lot is located now.

### Sale of Lots

Lots were laid out 15 by 18 feet with suitable walks and alleys. These 214 lots with stakes at the corners were priced at a minimum of \$11 on each corner and outside lot, and \$8 on each middle lot. Offered at public auction on May 4, none was sold, so they were ready for private sale. Another part of the grounds had been laid out in smaller lots and still another in single graves for paupers and others who

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Community Affairs File

lined out

would be buried at town expense.

At this meeting William Anderson was elected unanimously as the sexton of the new cemetery.

On June 3, William Watkins was allowed one dollar for sowing grass seed, and the committee was instructed to procure some one to finish clearing the lot at the southeast corner. This lot was the first to be used, and in it are buried many of the earliest pioneers of the town and city.

Clayton and Lyon were allowed \$140 for a hearse, and the sexton was authorized to attend funerals with the public hearse and to collect one dollar and a half for his services from the person employing him. John Britton was paid \$14 for surveying the cemetery.

On July 1, the street leading to the cemetery was ordered opened and cleared of brush and trees. This marks the beginning of burials there.

Located as it was, far out of town, only a path through the woods and prairie existed. The 16th section was only newly opened to sale; not a house stood above Locust Street or west of Seventh, and it is doubtful if there were any east of it. What is now Lafayette Avenue was barely known, useful only for traffic to Otter Creek and Rockville.

Even the Wabash & Erie Canal was in the future. Terre Haute was not on the projected route to the Ohio river and the growing town was concerned with other problems than streets and transportation.

#### Bodies Removed

Less than a score of burials were made in Woodlawn during the first year, but there were some removals from the old burying ground. Hundreds, if not thousands, of our early dead were left to lie where they were put and, in the erection of the factory

there, were disturbed by the workers who saw nothing but sport in their remains. Many of them were cared for by their relatives when the ground was invaded by the canal in 1848, and some who had no one to look out for them were removed by the contractor at the expense of the town. For removing the remains of 44 of these early settlers, \$36.50 was asked, but the town paid only half the amount, a modest enough sum.

#### Noted Dead

Woodlawn has many noted dead in its limits, soldiers in all of our wars from the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Blackhawk War, the Mexican and Civil Wars, the Indian border wars in the Sixties and Seventies, the Spanish-American and World Wars I and II, the Korean War and Vietnam Conflict.

Statesmen of all kinds from state legislators to foreign ministers; lawyers, judges, mayors and councilmen; a few great orators, many of our early merchants and manufacturers, millers and distillers, brewers and iron masters, bankers and farmers; engineers, ministers, builders of our canal, railroads, highways, interurbans and steamboat lines; all the varying industries and activities of a growing city are represented there and with them lie their wives and children.

All about stand tombstones in memory of members of the pioneer families of McKeen, Farrington, Early, Grover, Madison, Warren, Linton, Scott, Boudinot, Pence, Patrick, Griswold, Barbour, Ball, Routledge, Cooper, Miller and Ross — and many other of note for whom there is not space to record.

Woodlawn Cemetery, a place of memories and peace everlasting, for the past 140 years.

# Genealogy pursued with congeniality here

To JUL 29 1979  
Readers apparently enjoy columns on family genealogy, so here goes with another effort. Anyone with information to help any of these people climb their respective family trees is invited to write in or call the writer.

The family records from the Bible of James (1865-1923) and Nancy L. (Elkin) (1870-1930) Padgett began the year they were married, 1889.

The births, deaths and marriages of this family record ended with the death in 1978 of Mabel Padgett Jones. This information is on file in the Vigo County Historical Society's files and will be compiled with other family Bible records in Volume VI.

Those having old family Bibles with written records in the center pages are invited to have them copied by the Society for permanent record.

## Nebraska Letter

A letter from Ceresco, Nebraska, told about the writer's grandfather Dr. William Robert Wall (the name was earlier spelled Walls), who lived in Terre Haute until the Civil War when he moved to Iowa.

The writer, a former resident of New Palestine, Ind., wrote of Dr. Wall's first wife, Alvira (or Elvira) J. Seath, who divorced him. Of their nine children, only Mary, Florence, Betty and Edwin lived to maturity. Dr. Wall's ex-wife married second a Mr. Sparks.

Mary Wall married a Mr. Roseman, and after his death a Mr. Weeks. Her children were Jenny, Henry and Ernest (who became an actor).

Florence's children were Alfred, Frederick, Lottie, Anna and William Robert.

Betty Wall (married name unknown) had a daughter, Gertrude.

Edwin had two daughters, Ruth and Edythe (who was still living in 1977).

The correspondent's father was born in 1876 in Iowa, and he had an older sister, so Dr. Wall obviously remarried around 1870.

Harriet Allis, daughter of Samuel and Emeline (Palmer) Allis, was the second wife. Samuel Allis came from Conway, Mass., to Ithaca, New York, and there he met his wife to be, a

## Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

Genealogy File

To JULY 29  
1979



terested.

A great-grandson, Winston H. Cundiff IV, born in 1974 in Baton Rouge, La., has at least two Revolutionary War soldiers among his ancestors. Going back eight generations, the baby's ancestors are William Young, Nancy Young Wickliffe, Sarah Jane Wickliffe, William Young Cundiff, Bryan Y. Cundiff, Winston H. Cundiff, Winston H. Cundiff Jr., and the baby's father, Winston H. Cundiff III.

On the maternal side, the line goes from Andrew Glenn, Andrew Glenn Jr., Andrew Glenn III, John H. Glenn, Hattie Glenn Cundiff, Winston H. Cundiff Jr., Winston H. Cundiff III and Winston H. Cundiff IV.

The ancestor, William Young, was born in 1716, died in 1783, and enlisted in the Army of the U.S.A. in 1777 along with Captain Thomas Blackwell, Alexander Keith, First Lieutenant Joseph Blackwell and Second Lieutenant John Rust. He lived in Fauquier County, Virginia.

In the spring he received orders to take some Highlander prisoners from the Fauquier County Court House to Alexandria. From there he was sent back as a recruiting sergeant. He continued until October, when he joined the army at what was called White Marsh Camp.

It was here he had such heavy duty and it was here he heard the first shot that killed one of his fellow men. From this place he retired to winter quarters at Valley Forge.

In the spring of 1778 some new regulations found him attached to company commanded by Captain James Williams. They took up a campment at White Plains, New York, and it was some time after that he took sick with camp fever, which rendered him unable to perform a duty until spring.

He said, "My officers were anxious

Community Affairs File

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for me to retire to the hospital, but refusing to do so as long as I could walk, I fell in with the baggage and went on to our headquarters. In 1781 I moved from Virginia to Nelson County, Ky., and was there until 1800 when I came to Muhlenberger."

William Young was supposed to have served in Captain Boyle's Company in April, 1780, at stations near Dix River in what is now Boyle, Garrard and Lincoln counties.

Revolutionary soldier ancestor Andrew Glenn, served from Pennsylvania.

Mr. Cundiff has been a Hoosier for many years, but still has ties with Muhlenberger County, Kentucky, and many pleasant memories of people and days gone by.

#### Butler Family

During the past summers, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph C. Wentz, Leavenworth, Kansas, have spent several days in Paris, Ill., Rockville, Brazil and Greencastle, Ind., doing on-the-spot research for several lines on their family trees.

Her great-great-grandparents, Israel and Rebecca Butler, lived in Parke and Putnam counties from about 1830 until the 1880's. Her grandfather, Thomas Butler, was the fourth or fifth of their thirteen children, born in Parke county in 1830. At the time of Israel's death in 1850, the family was living in Putnam county near Clinton Falls.

Rebecca lived until 1893, and is buried at Cottonwood Falls, Kansas. She had moved to Kansas with Thomas and his family in the 1880s.

Can anyone help these people learn the names of Israel's parents, his burial place, and Rebecca's maiden name and parentage? She was born in 1809 in Kentucky, and is alleged to have known the Lincoln family at Pigeon Creek.

# More families catch the bug to climb family trees

Community Affairs File

## Historically Speaking

To OCT 28 1979

By Dorothy Clark



Genealogy continues to grow in popularity, and more and more people across the country are catching the bug to climb family trees. As a hobby, genealogy becomes an insatiable itch that must be scratched, and letter writing is a major feature of the pursuit. My mailbag continues to be stuffed with ancestor seekers hoping to find a clue that will tell them where to dig next.

A Salt Lake City resident needed a marriage record for her great-grandparents who resided in Terre Haute. The groom was John Coltrin, born 1859 in Terre Haute, and the bride was born in 1860. They married in Vigo County in 1882.

An Algoma, Wis., resident was hunting for her ancestors in Terre Haute. It seems her grandfather was born and reared in Indianapolis, but the family remembered that he kept in touch with relatives in Terre Haute.

We were able to go back a few more generations and find her thirdgreat grandparents, Joseph R. Fisher and Eunice Jane Justus, who were married in Vigo County in 1834.

According to Woodlawn Cemetery records, Mr. Fisher died in 1856, at the age of 45, and his widow, "Unicy", died in 1901 at the age of 85 years.

Their daughter, Isabelle Fisher married a Mr. McCosh and continued the line five generations further to the correspondent.

Terre Haute has played a role in many widely scattered families. The paternal great-great-grandparents of a Detroit letter writer were Aaron R. Hedden and Maria Van Sep who came here from New Jersey. Their daughter, Sattie Hedden, was born here in 1859 and married Solomon Moers in Robinson, Ill., in 1878.

Solomon was 27 years old at that time, of German birth, the son of Emanuel and Sattie Griendaum Moers. According to a History of Crawford and Clark Counties, Ill., published in 1883, Sol was a jeweler and watch maker. He came to America with his parents from Germany in 1859 and settled in Cincinnati where he was reared. Following school, he spent four years as an

apprentice in his profession, and located in Robinson in 1873.

Solomon and Sattie Hedden Moers had two children, Mamie and Selina.

More complicated is the family tree of a long-time correspondent in McLean, Va. His problem involves Nathan Marrs who was born in 1790 in Montgomery County, Va., and died in 1850 in Vigo County.

Nathan married Elizabeth Barbee, who was born in 1791 in Shelby County, Ky., and died in Vigo County in 1851. They were living in Crawford County, Ill., in 1830. Possible names of the children were Nancy, Frances, Martha, Sarah Elizabeth, John and Andrew.

The writer's great-grandmother, Sarah Elizabeth Marrs, born 1828 in Crawford County, Ill., died in Nebraska in 1906. She married Barnett A. Dean in 1848 in Vigo County. By the 1850 census for Vigo County, they had a son, James, but ten years later (for the 1860 census), they had moved to Edgar County, Ill., there were five children, and he had died a few months before the census taker came around.

Wills and estate settlements are difficult to search in a dusty, cold court house attic, and many times there was no will. Land records are always reliable as land "pedigrees" were carefully outlined from Indian days on.

Many people rented land, if they couldn't afford to buy, and moved from one place to hopefully a better place. These are the ancestors who are most difficult to trace.

From Jennings, La., came a plea for help in learning more about maternal great-grandparents, Isaac M. Brown and his first wife, Mary Ann Bishop, who were married in Terre Haute in 1844. He married second Mary Frances Eddy in 1859.

According to the 1850 census of Harrison township, Vigo County, Brown was 28 years old, a printer, and born in Indiana. He owned one thousand dollars worth of real estate. His wife, Mary A., was 24 and a native of Indiana. Their children were Mary M., age 4; Isaac T., age 2, and Chalmers C., age six months.

Later records show that Mary

Myrsene Brown, born 1846, married M. M. Shink; Isaac Theodore (the writer's grandfather), born 1848, married Sarah Elizabeth Sibley; Chalmers Clayton, born 1851, married Amanda Reed, and Phillip C., no birthdate, married Sadie Farley. Two other children died in infancy. All were born in Terre Haute.

Family records show that Isaac M. Brown was born in 1821 in Centerville, Wayne County, Ind. In 1841 he was foreman of the Terre Haute Courier. Seven years later he held the same position with the Terre Haute Express until 1852.

In 1862 he enlisted in Company H, Indiana Cavalry, and served for three years in the Civil War. He died in Columbus, Ind., in 1891, but is buried in Terre Haute.

The Louisiana resident wants to find out anything she can about Mary Ann Bishop Brown. When and where was she born? Who were her parents, her brothers and sisters? When and where did she die? The answer to the last question was probably in 1856 in Terre Haute, but does anyone have knowledge of this puzzle?

Amateur genealogy is still growing in popularity and has been since the Bicentennial and the publishing of the book "Roots" and its television version seen by millions of viewers.

This writer receives hundreds of letters asking for help in searching for ancestors in the Wabash Valley area. If time permits, help will be given, but research as a professional genealogist must come first. Fortunately history and genealogy go hand in hand.

A woman in Harrisburg, Ill., needs information on her kinsmen, Andrew Denny, his wife Ann Bates Denny, their two children, and Ann's mother, Mary M. Bates, all living at the impossible address of 202 South Eagle in Terre Haute just before the Civil War. Denny worked on the railroad along with another kinsman, Otto Ostersmitter.

From North Springfield, Va., came a letter asking for help in sorting out the Biegler, Rubsch, Schwebel, Slaty, Scheurman and Harsch families. The Bieglers came from Alsace-Lorraine, while Harsch was from Poland, in Clay county, Ind. John Rubsch came here from Louisville, Ky.

More letters come from California

than from any other state. Either there are more people in California interested in genealogy, or they're just more prolific letter-writers.

A resident of Petaluma, Calif., is interested in his great-great-grandfather, John Fredrick Fuerstenberger, who died in Terre Haute in 1905. The widow, the former Mary Amanda Green, died much later.

A San Francisco woman needed an 1854 marriage record for J. B. Cummings (or Cummings).

From Rosemead, Calif., came a request for the marriage records of Leadom M. Donham to Jeane or Virginia James-Johnson before 1900, and to Tille or Maltilda (last name unknown) after 1900.

A former resident of South Bend wished she had been interested in genealogy before moving out of Indiana to Wichita, Kansas. She was trying to find an 1826 marriage record for Nathan Arnet Allmon to Cynthia G. Barr. They had a son, Thomas Warren.

From Claremore, Okla. came a request for information on the great-great-grandparents, Riley and Elizabeth Colvin, who were believed to have married in Vigo county in the

1840s.

A woman in Mt. Vernon, Ill. wrote about her ancestors, Joseph and Zerish Mattox (or Mathics), and Hannah Pickett.

From Fredericksburg, Iowa, came a letter asking for any information on Richard Riley Shull, born 1829 in Vigo county.

A woman in Alton, Ill., requested "all pertinent data, probate, civil court records, deeds, land grants, etc., for Joseph Dwiggins, born 1831, and his father, Elijah Dwiggins." A big order! Joseph was supposed to have married Virginia Thomas here in 1853.

Working on the McNeil and Cole families of Vigo and Sullivan counties, a resident of Limon, Okla., needed the 1847 marriage record of William S. McNeil and Sarah Margaret Cole.

A woman in Brazil was interested in the McHenry and Sedan family lines. She was most anxious to find an early marriage record for Isaac McHenry and Elizabeth Sedan.

Anyone having information about any of the above genealogy problems is invited to contact the writer at 2032 N. Eighth St.

# To Nov 18 1979 Impedimentia and logistics of early immigration

## Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

Dorothy  
Clark

18 NOV 18 1979



When the Colonists came to America, passengers spent an average of three months pitching and rolling in small sailing vessels incredibly crowded by modern standards.

On many ships, there wasn't even enough room to stand upright below decks. Passengers slept and ate in communal rooms which were filled with hammocks at night, and cleared as a common room during the day.

The deck was the only place where really fresh air was available. Tiny cabins were reserved for the more affluent colonists.

With space at a premium, cargo was limited to essential supplies for the voyage plus firearms, ammunition, tools, trade goods for the Indians, and a few household goods. Bulky and fragile furniture, with few exceptions, was left behind.

Arriving in the New World, the first order of business was to arrange for food, shelter, and a secure military system. Once these had been solved, furniture and housewares became the next order of business.

Three-legged stools were made from available wood with very little labor. Wooden frame beds with cross-laced ropes served as supports for homemade mattresses, hand-woven blankets, and fur rugs. The wooden traveling chests served as storage and seating.

As time and conditions improved, slat-back chairs were constructed, simple tables and benches, a child's cradle, and other necessary furnishings. Refinements came later. If the household had pieces of pewter, china, glass or silver, it was hard to keep them hidden away in a chest. The desire to display these family treasures led to the development of the "hutch."

This early piece of furniture combined storage space in the lower section with open display shelves above. Corner cupboards were early pieces also with either solid doors or open shelves or a combination of both.

### Westward Ho

When the movement westward began, again the families had to choose what to load in the covered wagons and flat boats and what to leave behind or turn into ready cash. Here again only the essentials could be included, and when the settlement was made and the log cabin erected, the three-legged stools, the rude chairs, tables, benches, bedsteads, etc., were constructed from native woods.

Whatever was needed, as the family grew and conditions changed, was carved, whittled, and contrived by the men of the household. In every community there seemed to be at least one man trained as a carpenter, cabinet-maker or handy-man who could trade his skills for farm produce or other skills he needed.

### Antiques Defined

Any and all of the items mentioned above would be treasured antiques to modern day collectors, but few are still in existence and those that have survived have been properly placed in museums and restorations.

According to Encyclopaedia Britannica, "antique" means "old" but also carries connotations of aesthetic, historic and financial value. The legal definition of an antique also varies considerably from one country to another.

The United Kingdom customs and excise tax law specifies objects manufactured before 1830 to be regarded as antiques and exempt from payment of duty on import.

The 1930 United States tariff act exempted from duty items produced prior to 1830. Canada in 1948 used the date of 1847. British customs in 1959 set 100 years prior to the date as the criteria for assessing antiques, and the United States also adopted the 100 years rule.

Even when public taste plumbbed the depths in the most aesthetically barren period of the Victorian era (second half of 19th century), there were still, here and there, artists and craftsmen producing items of enduring merit which deserve the attention of today's collector.

One expert told of finding a whole yard full of floral chamber pots in the old Treasure Trove in Birmingham, England (probably the biggest and best-known junk shop in Britain in 1960). Decorated in the styles of Meissen and Sevres or the exotic Imari of the Far East, they were an unnerving sight, priced under five shillings (60 cents). By 1970 the starting price for one of these was five pounds (about \$15).

A curiosity of folk art, the two-handled chamber pot with appropriate doggerel outside and a realistic earthenware frog inside, has

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vanished from the markets, bringing increasingly high prices in better class sales rooms. Now used for planters by interior decorators, they have become collector's items. Also used for planters are brass and copper pots, pans and kettles, even small foot tubs.

The story is told of a large mid-Victorian house purchased complete with several marble-topped washstands, relics of former occupants. The marble tops were smashed by the new owners and used for ornamental paving in the garden. Wonder how many others were lost in the same way? Now they are being cut, reground and converted into coffee tables, window sills, etc.

#### Puzzlement

Antiques frequently are, in the memorable words of Anna's King of Siam, "a puzzlement." In an essay, "Silver Spoons," Robert William Chapman wrote: "A collector should not be too careful to be sure of what he buys, or the sporting spirit will atrophy; and he who collects that he may have the best collection, or a better collection than his friend's, is little more than a miser."

Good advice is to beware the antiques maven (a maven is an expert). It's best to consult reliable experts in the field, research the item in question at museums and libraries. Those in the know use Parke-Bernet, and pronounce it Parke-Ber-net not Parke-BerNAY! If you're into bentwood furniture, remember it's Thonet Brothers of Vienna who are tops, and the name rhymes with sonnet not with day.

To clear up a misconception, it's an "antique shop" which is an old store, An "antiques shop" is a store where old things are sold. It does make a difference.

# Historically Speaking

# The men of pioneer days also put off making wills

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Valley  
T S OCT 18 1981

By DOROTHY CLARK  
Tribune-Star Writer

It has been said there is nothing so sure as death and taxes, but few of us ever meet them fully prepared. The men of pioneer days were no exception.

The earliest will record book of Vigo County contains 19 wills from that of Alanson Church to that of Benjamin Starke. From the opening of the court in 1818 until Starke's will was filed, there were 110 estates which came under the control of the court.

This shows that only about one man in six made any will at all, and of the 19, only two were made more than a year before the death of the maker. Either they waited until they were at death's door to make the will, or they waited until just a little too long and slipped through death's door intestate.

John Lynch died before the court was established here, and his estate was the first upon which letters of administration were granted March 23, 1818. Major John T. Chunn, former commanding officer at Fort Harrison, was named administrator.

On April 13, James Jones was named administrator of the estate of Oliver Jones, and six months later the third estate was that of Jonathan Murdock, with the appointment of James Scott.

October had two more entries, the estate of Thomas Gordon, with Jacob Dick as administrator, and the estate of Robert Nelson, with Mary Nelson and James Earle as administrators.

On Dec. 1, John Harris became executor of the estate of Alanson Church, who mentioned in his will his wife, Elizabeth, and his children, Alanson, Elizabeth (Harris), Lucinda, Lydia, Sally and Eliza.

James Jones and Elisha Bentley were named for the estate of Thomas W. Taylor, and Henry P. Irish was appointed for the estate of James Austin.

The first entry for 1819 was that of Alex. Chamberlain who took over the estate of John Chamberlain Jr. This was followed by the appointment of John Durkee for Zebulon Jennings, Gershom Tuttle for Israel Post, and Jacob Kuyer for Isaac Hunter's estate.

On June 1, Betsey Ellis was made administratrix of the estate of her

late husband, Calvin, and Caleb Crawford took control of the goods and chattels of his son-in-law, Andrew Himrod. The widow later married Joseph East, and in her later days was known as "Aunty" East.

In September, Lewis Northup took over for Luther Whitwood, and Polly Lee became administratrix of her husband's estate. The venerable Elder had earned his reward and gone on for it. His will dated six months earlier, named his wife, Polly, his sons, John, Henry, Samuel and James, and his daughters, Elizabeth (Ferguson), Jane (Southard) and Ruth (Denman), the wife of another pillar of the church, the Rev. Isaac Denman.

Elenor, the widow of John McIn-tire, took charge of his estate Oct. 22, and a month later Alexander Ewing was appointed for the estate of John Ewing.

In December, Ann, the widow of John Earle, was appointed by the court, and Zebina C. Hovey was appointed to administer the estate of his brother, Elihu, who had fallen from the roof of the new courthouse on which they were working and been killed by the chisel in his hand as he struck a tree stump in the yard.

Samuel McQuilkin became administrator of Andrew Bell's estate, March 14, 1820; Isaac Chenoweth for John Chenoweth on March 23, and Barbara Ray was named for that of her husband on March 30.

John Ray and his brother had gone to a neighbor's and been overtaken by a storm on their way home. John was found frozen to death the next morning. His father was William Ray, the Revolutionary War veteran who had fought with "Mad Anthony" Wayne. His brother became governor of Indiana.

In April, William and Mary Mote were named for the estate of the father and husband, Jeremiah, a member of the Honey Creek Meeting, and Ashley Harris was named for Gideon Stillson.

In August, George Clem took over the estate of Elijah Andrew, and Robert Harrison did the same for Collins C. W. Morgan.

Elisha Parsons and John Durkee were appointed Oct. 31 for the estate of William Coltrin; William Durham took charge of the Martin Braddock estate in November, and

John L. and Ann Richardson became administrators of Samuel L. Richardson's estate. Two days later Lucius H. Scott became the administrator of the estate of Lewis B. Laurence.

The year 1821 for probate court began with the filing of the will of Eleazer Aspinwall. His widow Eliza was named with William C. Linton as executor, and she later married him. The will mentions his sisters, Ann and Roxa (Campbell), and brothers, Chester and Lewis.

The winter months continued to take their toll of early settlers. C. B. Modesitt became administrator for Joel Sherman on Jan. 10. Dr. Jacob D. G. McDonald was named for Isaac W. Ashton on Feb. 17, Francis Cunningham and Remember Blackman for Truman Blackman on May 1. On May 19, David and John Cox were named executors of the last will and testament of Richard Cox whose will named his sons, Thomas, David, Peter, Isaac, Richard, William and John, and

daughters, Mary (Evans) and Rebecca (Pace) and her son, Daniel, as well as another grandson, Amos Cox.

On June 6, 1821, David Lykins took charge of the estate of Abraham Elliott whose will, made March 10, had a codicil dated May 27, which named his daughters, Sarah, Elizabeth, Catharine and another designated only by the initial "R," his sons Abner and Joab, and his housekeeper, Elizabeth Church. Among his bequests were a field of cotton, then growing, and some wool to come from near Paoli.

Mark Barnett's estate was given to his widow and William N. Perry for settlement, July 11, and Salem Pocock was appointed for the estate of Ebenezer Wilson on Aug. 6, while Gershom Tuttle took charge Aug. 17 of the estate of his brother-in-law, Perez Porter.

The subject of early Vigo County wills and estates probated will be concluded in next Sunday's column...

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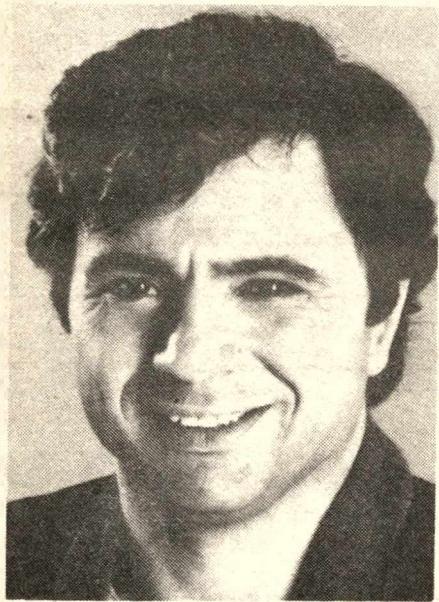
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# BETWEEN THE LINES

## THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY...

By Josie



**Q.** Robert Blake is always so belligerent about higher-ups when he talks about his career on TV. Has he really been so maligned by the executives? G. Petersen, Brookline, Mass.

**A.** Blake was famous for his battles with the executives at the "Black Tower" (the industry's name for Universal Studios) while he was filming "Baretta" a few years ago. He wasn't exactly beloved by Paramount and United Artists for appearing on talk shows and trashing two films he made for them, "Coast to Coast" and "Second Hand Hearts." He believes that studio execs are "rummies" and that only real, down-to-earth people know what's going on. So, he says, he tries out scripts on a valid cross section of folks before accepting them. "I take them down to San Bernadino and give them to four truck drivers, three drunks, and two telephone operators. If they like them, I do them," Blake says.

**Q.** I feel very sorry for Marie Osmond. It seems that she doesn't control her own life — she was pushed into show business, forced to live in the family house. Doesn't it drive her crazy? Sherry K., Toledo, Oh.

**A.** Things did get a bit tense a few years back when Marie moved out of the family's Utah estate and into her own "bachelorette" digs in L.A. but she insists that she likes living *en famille* and has moved back. As for family pressures, her mother insists that Marie was *not* forced into joining the family act — she chose to. "In her early teens," says Mom Olive, "Marie was very shy and very pudgy, so she chose to stay off the stage." Once she lost her baby fat and saw her brother Jimmy get a gold record on his own, she decided to jump into the business. As for her social life, she is reportedly resentful about the family pressure that caused her recent broken engagement; the family, however, holds the line that the altar-shy bride-to-be made her own choice.

**Q.** I really like Grace Slick but I hate her solo albums. Is she going to change them if she continues to record on her own? Lee Simms, Trenton, N.J.

**A.** She sure is — Grace is more than a little upset about her albums' lack of success and she blames it on her producer, Ron Frangipane, who, she says, is "better at movie music than rock n' roll." The Jefferson Starship albums seem to be doing much better than her own, so when she was spotted recently huddling with Starship producer Ron Nevison, the prevailing opinion was that she was talking him into joining up with her.



**Q.** I read that Tatum O'Neal was leaving her current flame, Rex Smith, to go back to Michael Jackson. True? Shelley G., Oxon Park, Md.

**A.** No, she and Smith are, as of this writing, still pretty tight, (although he has been making beautiful music, personally and professionally with singer Rachel Sweet) and reports of her romance with Jackson a few years back were heavily trumped up. What is happening is a movie. Jackson reportedly was offered a hefty sum to go to China and make an epic film for Chinese movie mogul Run Run Shaw and he's accepted. His costar is scheduled to be Tatum O'Neal.

**Q.** I think that all the X-rated elements in Hollywood films are offensive. They seem to be remaking good, old movies and just inserting more sex scenes in them. Why don't they just leave them alone? J. O'Keefe, Tyler, Tex.

**A.** As long as the scenes continue to sell tickets, they'll keep filming them. You're not alone, though, in discounting their worth. Former sex siren Lana Turner reportedly refused to see the steamy remake of her film "The Postman Always Rings Twice" on the grounds that the new treatment was absurd — also boring. "I don't know why Hollywood is producing so many pornographic films," she says. "After all, when you've seen one, you've seen them all."

**Q.** Is there some kind of feud going on between Johnny Carson and John Davidson? Jackie H., Fresno, Calif.

**A.** There's no tiff between the stars — it's between their staffs. With so many talk shows originating from Los Angeles, there's stiff competition to get good guests and the "Tonight" staff got pretty ticked off at the Davidson show talent hunters. It seems that when the two shows taped at Burbank studios, the Davidson show crew would come over to the neighboring set and chat with the stars guesting that night with Johnny. Fireworks ensued. Now the "Tonight Show" films elsewhere so there can be no conflicts of interest.

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# History comes alive in family stories

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Ts JAN 10 1982

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By DOROTHY CLARK  
Tribune-Star Writer

History really comes alive when family stories are told generation to generation.

A good example is the story of Aaron Ballou whose home was in New York, but who was a sailor in 1820 on a sailing vessel between the United States and France. On one of the return trips, a couple named Moraund boarded the ship to come to America. Soon after leaving France, however, the husband became ill, died and was buried at sea.

Mrs. Moraund knew no English, and since Ballou spoke both English and French, he took her under his wing. When they reached New York, he took the young widow to live with friends while he made another trip to Europe. Upon his return a year later, they were married, went to New Orleans for a while, then came up the Mississippi,

the Ohio and the Wabash rivers to Terre Haute.

They first lived near St. Mary-of-the-Woods, and Aaron is buried in a little cemetery near Tecumseh. He died soon after coming to Vigo County in 1835. Later his widow, Margaret, and her family moved to Terre Haute.

One of the daughters of Aaron and Margaret, Luna Ballou, married Harrison Denny in 1847, the son of William and Margaret Denny, who had arrived in Vigo County in 1824. William Denny served as a scout in the War of 1812. He was one of only two survivors of 16 scouts to return home. Following the war, he came here to buy government land in 1818. William died in 1850, his wife in 1836. Both are buried in the Denny Cemetery.

One of the sons of Aaron and Margaret Ballou was Celestine Ballou, who married Emily Wright, sister of Edward R. Wright, a Terre

Haute grocer for many years. Celestine and Emily moved to a 50-acre farm on what is now U.S. 41, about half a mile north of the Vigo-Parke County Line.

One of their sons, David H. Ballou, married Margaret Kispert, and their only child was Harry Edwin Ballou. His son, Harry Richard Ballou, also lived on the county line.

As interesting as the Ballou story is, the Kispert story may be even more so. In 1842, Nicholas Kispert and Barbara Nurnberger were engaged to be married in Bavaria, Germany. Since the ruling prince of Bavaria was also planning to be married, he sent out word to all engaged couples of the province so they could take part in a mass ceremony at the palace.

Seventy couples responded, among them Nicholas and Barbara. When the wedding date arrived, the prince sent out a carriage for each

bride and her parents, another carriage for each groom and his parents. The mass ceremony took place and the prince presented each groom with a Bible, inscribed with his name as donor. The princess presented each bride with a gold wedding ring to match her own.

About four years later, the Kisperts with their baby daughter, Sarah, and Barbara's parents, Adam and Eve Nurnberger, came to America. They lived in various places until they finally settled in Parke County. Nicholas Kispert built the first brick house in Parke County, about one mile north of Atherton.

The Kisperts were the parents of four children: Sarah, who married Jacob Hein; John, who died unmarried; George; and Margaret, who married David H. Ballou. Their grandson had in his possession the

Bible and ring from Bavaria.

One family story concerned a young woman who had never seen tomatoes before her arrival in Vigo County. She was told they were called "love apples" and were good to eat. When she first bit into one, she was disappointed that their taste did not live up to their glamourous name. Her neighbors soon instructed her how to prepare them, and she learned to add salt and enjoy them raw or cooked.

Interesting family stories and traditions can only be learned from family members. Unless they are written down, they may soon be lost to future generations. Sometimes as much history of a locality and its early residents can be learned by talking to their descendants as can be learned by reading all the county histories and other reference books that have been printed.



1940s MARKET — This 1945 photo from the Martin Files



SYMPHONY LEAGUE — New Symphony League officers include Marie Louise Gee, vice president; Catherine Kulp, president; Marian Danek, treasurer; and Karen Tullos, corresponding president. Also serving is Glenna Rogers, recording secretary.



REBEKAH LODGE DISTRICT OFFICERS — District officers of the Rebekah Lodge recently met at the Odd Fellows Building.

## Historically Speaking

Community Affairs File

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# Glory-of-the-snow marks burial plot

Valley

Ts APR 4 1982

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

April is the month to visit the southwest corner of Woodlawn Cemetery and see a most unusual spring flower display. Within the wrought-iron enclosure of the family plot of the Von Bichowsky dead is a sight to delight the eye of every green-thumb enthusiast as well as everyone who appreciates a truly beautiful sight.

In the center of the enclosure is a very large linden tree supposedly imported from Germany when very small and planted there after the death of Mrs. Von Bichowsky in 1902. During the past 80 years, the tree has thrived and is now a fine specimen.

The blue carpet of blooming flowers is the ground cover which delights the viewers. Many years ago the bulbous plant (*Chionodoxa luciliae*), commonly known as "Glory-of-the-snow," was planted under the tree. This early spring bloomer usually grows six to eight inches high and has many blue

blossoms. Under evidently perfect growing conditions, this bulb has become naturalized and has spread even beyond the confines of the fenced enclosure, forming a veritable carpet of intense blue — one of the many such beauty spots in and around Terre Haute.

Buried here are Francis Von Bichowsky (1827-1906), his wife, Mathilde Gust (1826-1902) and Cora (1860-1933). The son of a retired Prussian army officer of Polish parentage and a German mother, Francis was educated in Berlin as a mechanical engineer.

He emigrated to America in 1851, locating first in Clay County before coming to Terre Haute in 1852. He engaged in the mercantile business until 1869 when he retired. He had served seven years on the city school board, before deciding to run for office as state senator from Vigo County on the Republican ticket and was successful. He served in 1881, 1883 and was again elected in 1888.

A son, Emma, lived at the southwest corner of Sixth-and-one-half and Swan streets in 1876, but later moved to California.

The spring carpet of blue on the Von Bichowsky family plot is an April event this writer never misses. With the right weather conditions, it usually lasts a week or two.

Anyone interested in local history cannot help but become interested in reading the inscriptions and admiring the beautiful carving of the old-time stone cutters in Woodlawn Cemetery, the city's oldest burying ground opened in 1839.

Charles Eppelin (1796-1876) and his wife Maria are buried with their daughter Emilie (1844-1856). In the Bell family plot were interred William and Margaret, along with Joseph F. Renner (1827-1864) and his daughter Mamie (1855-1877).

The large monument for Frederick Hake (1795-1878) was inscribed on the opposite side with an Eastern Star emblem for Mary Parker (1797-1885). A nearby smaller stone marked the grave of

Hake's wife Nancy who died in 1846.

On the tombstone of Adam and Anna M. Kadel, and of Philip H.

and Wilhelmina Kadel were weathered poems and intricately carved stone flowers. Chloe Chadwick (1789-1872) and Ebenezer (1791-1864) were certainly early residents.

On a flat modest table is inscribed, "Flora Gilman Gulick, 1865-1941, founder of the Flora Gulick Boys' Club." She is buried with several members of the Gilman family whose burials range from 1853 to 1873.

The Reichert family stone depicts a weeping willow tree. On a tall monument were recorded the dates of Henry Weiss (1827-1867) and David Ecker (1795-1877), the latter from Chester County, Pa. Most unusual is the stone cut in the form of a heart and inscribed, "Carries Badgely, wife of J.W. Byrne, 1898, aged 27."

Much information was found on the Eccles family stone. Both Thomas and his wife Elizabeth were born in England. The Eiser family has a large plot nearby. A curious casket-shaped stone is placed between the graves of Erastus Flint (1782-1862) and his wife Sarah W. (1800-1860).

Historic interest attaches itself to almost every grave in the old part of Woodlawn Cemetery, recalling the early days of Terre Haute. Elaborate monuments and simple slabs bear evidence of eventful lives of those sleeping beneath.

## Woodlawn Cemetery harbors history

Jolley

T &amp; MAY 30 1982

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Wandering through Woodlawn Cemetery, oldest city cemetery located between First and Third streets, and First and Eighth avenues, is a fascinating experience to anyone interested in history and genealogy. Buried here are those early pioneers who played such an important role in Terre Haute history.

Town records show that Woodlawn was purchased in January, 1839, for \$620 and contained, at that time, a little over 12 acres. John F. Cruft, Curtis Gilbert and Robert Wallace served on the committee to have the lots grubbed, trees pruned, and an area fenced about 300 feet square, surveyed, and lots marked out for sale. This area is only the southern half of the present Woodlawn Cemetery.

In the beginning there were brick gatehouses erected on both sides of the main entrance. The northern one has been demolished, and only the southern one remains for an office.

The circular drive in the center of this older section of the graveyard surrounds a stone monument in honor of Civil War dead. The three bronze tablets are inscribed: "Erected by the U.S. to mark the burial place of eleven Confederate soldiers who, while prisoners of war, died at Terre Haute and were buried in this cemetery where the individual graves cannot now be identified."

The other tablets furnish the names of these soldiers, members of Cantt's 9th Battalion, Tennessee Cavalry: Benjamin F. Cockrell, Isaac M. Foster, John R. Holcomb, John L. Johnson, Thomas S. Davidson, Robert H. Maxwell, George N. Zollilcoff, Thomas S. Bryan, Gilford D. Nunley, William P. Thogmorton and Francis M. Gahagen.

Charles Wey, a member of the burial detail for these Rebel soldiers, told how these men were buried along the front fence line just south of the gate office.

Veterans of all the wars in which the U.S. has been involved are buried in Woodlawn, from the American Revolution to the Vietnam War.

The earliest such burial was of Captain John Hamilton who died in 1822, was buried in Indian Orchard Burying Ground on the Wabash river bank (where Pillsbury parking lot is now) and taken up for re-burial when Woodlawn was first opened.



Remembering a war...monument to Confederate soldiers.

He enlisted in 1775 as a Second Lieutenant in a Virginia company under Capt. Benjamin Harrison. He became a Captain under Colonel William Russell of the Thirteenth Virginia Regiment, serving at Brandywine and Germantown when the British invaded the South. He was discharged in 1778, and, as early as 1818, was one of the three commissioners who helped organize Vigo county.

Vigo County Land Book No. 1 shows that he made three purchases of land sold for taxes. Each purchase of 160 acres cost \$5.10, a total of 480 acres for only \$15.30.

His unmarked grave was located on the Humaston family plot, and the Fort Harrison Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, dedicated a white marble government tombstone marking his grave with suitable ceremonies. Some of his descendants still live in the area.

The other Revolutionary War veteran buried in Woodlawn is Joshua Patrick, born 1762 in Vollentown,

Conn. He enlisted at the age of 14 years as a fifer in the militia of Capt. Josiah Gibbs and served four months. Next he served as a substitute for several men for three and four month stretches, all under Capt. Moses Bruch. He joined Sheldon's Light Horse Brigade in New York in 1780 and was present at the surrender of Burgoyne.

Although he was discharged in January, 1781, he again served at Fort Edwards in that year, at Fort Ann in 1782, and at Fort George in 1783. Soldiering must have appealed to him.

He drew a pension, and was buried at Woodlawn in January, 1842, at the age of 80 years. His son was Dr. Septer Patrick. A white marble government tombstone marks his grave near the southeast rim of the circle.

Elijah Tillotson (1791-1857), first mayor of the Town of Terre Haute before it was incorporated as a city, is buried in Woodlawn. A Masonic emblem is carved on the stone. He

was also an Associate Judge. His wife, Sarah G., died in 1869 at the age of 69 years.

James Farrington (1797-1869), early Agent and Treasurer of Vigo County, lies buried in Woodlawn with his wife, the former Harriet Ewing. Early Probate Judge James T. Moffatt (1791-1861) is buried in Woodlawn with his wife, Julia B. There too is Joseph S. Jenckes (1804-1888) and his wife, Isabella Mary Greene.

One of the builders of the first bridge over Otter Creek was William P. Dexter, of the firm of Watkins & Dexter. He died in 1840 and is buried in Woodlawn. His partner, William Watkins, died in 1838, but he is buried in the Markle Graveyard.

Ezekiel Buxton who replaced the roof on the first Vigo County courthouse in 1829 lies buried in Woodlawn with his two wives, Betsey Ramage and Elizabeth. Also buried in Woodlawn is John Buxton (1792-1853), an early surveyor of Vigo County and one-time Lister, with his wife, Catharine A. Thomas Dowling, founder of the Wabash Courier in 1832 and builder of Dowling Hall, was buried here in 1876, aged 70, and his wife who died in 1853 at the age of 42.

The founder of West Terre Haute, Samuel McQuilkin, early sheriff and one-time owner of the Light Horse Tavern in Terre Haute is buried in Woodlawn. From the sale of his business he purchased the land and laid out the town of McQuilkinsville, which quickly became Macksville and eventually West Terre Haute. He died in 1849, aged 74, and his wife, Mercy W., died in 1848, aged 56.

It has been said that the founders of a community are seldom remembered further than the second generation. Surely this is true for many of Terre Haute's and Vigo County's founders.



Silent tribute...

Historically speaking

# A stroll through Woodlawn Cemetery

Community Affairs File

Ts JUL 18 1982

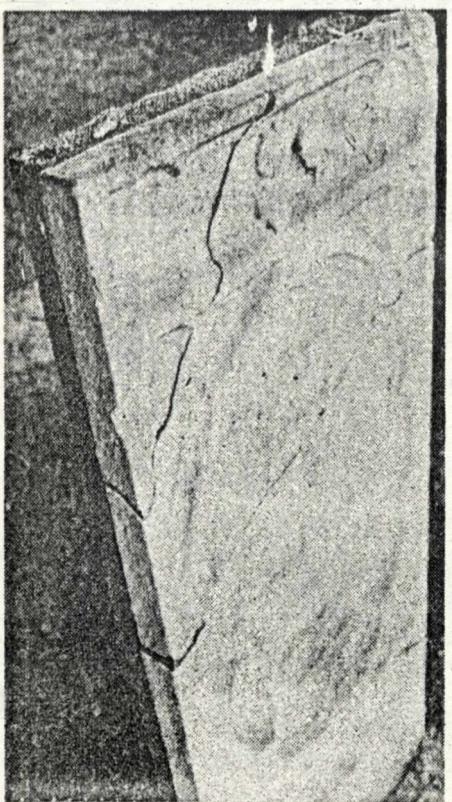
By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Early pioneer families in Terre Haute usually ended their days in Woodlawn Cemetery, oldest city graveyard established in 1839.

Walking south from the circle in the oldest section of Woodlawn one can see the pink marble monument of the Cox family inscribed "Robert



The Longdon memorial is an example of what can be done to restore monuments. The front of the original stone was covered with marble. The back of the monument (bottom photo) is the original.



S. Cox." Next to it is the Jones family plot centered with a tall, blue-grey stone topped with a carved torch. Former postmaster, Joseph O. Jones (1814-1899) and his wife, Persis (1849-1886) lost three daughters, Adah, Florence and Persis:

The tall, weathered monument of the Ross family is inscribed, "Harry Ross died 1898, ages 98 years, and his wife, Emeline." Nearby is the mausoleum of the Warren family. Interred here were Levi G. Warren (1810-1865), his wife, Martha Ellen (1826-1863) and Mary Alice Warren (1862-1937).

In the southwestern section of Woodlawn are the burials of the Kirmse, Woodmansee, Eddy, Ohm, Cook, Johns, Topping, Rankin, Rupp, Moffatt and Preston families. Daniel Dayton Condit (1797-1872) and his wife Charlotte T. lie buried in the Condit family plot. Across from this is the imposing monument of the Crufft family. General Charles Crufft (1826-1885), well-known hero of the Civil War who organized the 31st Indiana Regiment never thought he would be buried so near the monument to the Confederate soldiers. Following the war he resumed his law practice here with his partner, Colonel John P. Baird.

East of the Crufft plot is a very interesting hollow metal monument cast in sections and assembled on the site. It has stood the test of time very well immortalizing the Bailey family. So many early families left no adult descendants — all their children died young.

The Scott monument is topped with books carved in stone. The Gulick family is close to the Teel family plot. Inscriptions are almost illegible on the very old and badly weathered stones in this section. The Holden mausoleum is completely sealed with concrete now, but the carvings are still clear.

A new marble slab has been attached to an old weathered stone inscribed with "In memory of America E. Longdon who died Dec. 28, 1853, aged 16." In recent years several new monuments have been erected to repair or replace the old broken and unreadable ones, a fine way to honor our ancestors and preserve family records for posterity.

Of interest is the flat stone marker placed on a mound of earth. The inscription reads, "Removed, Chauncey Rose, to Highland Lawn, 1911." He died in 1877 and slept peacefully in Woodlawn for 34 years until his executors decided he needed a "tonier" last resting place.

The man for whom Terre Haute is

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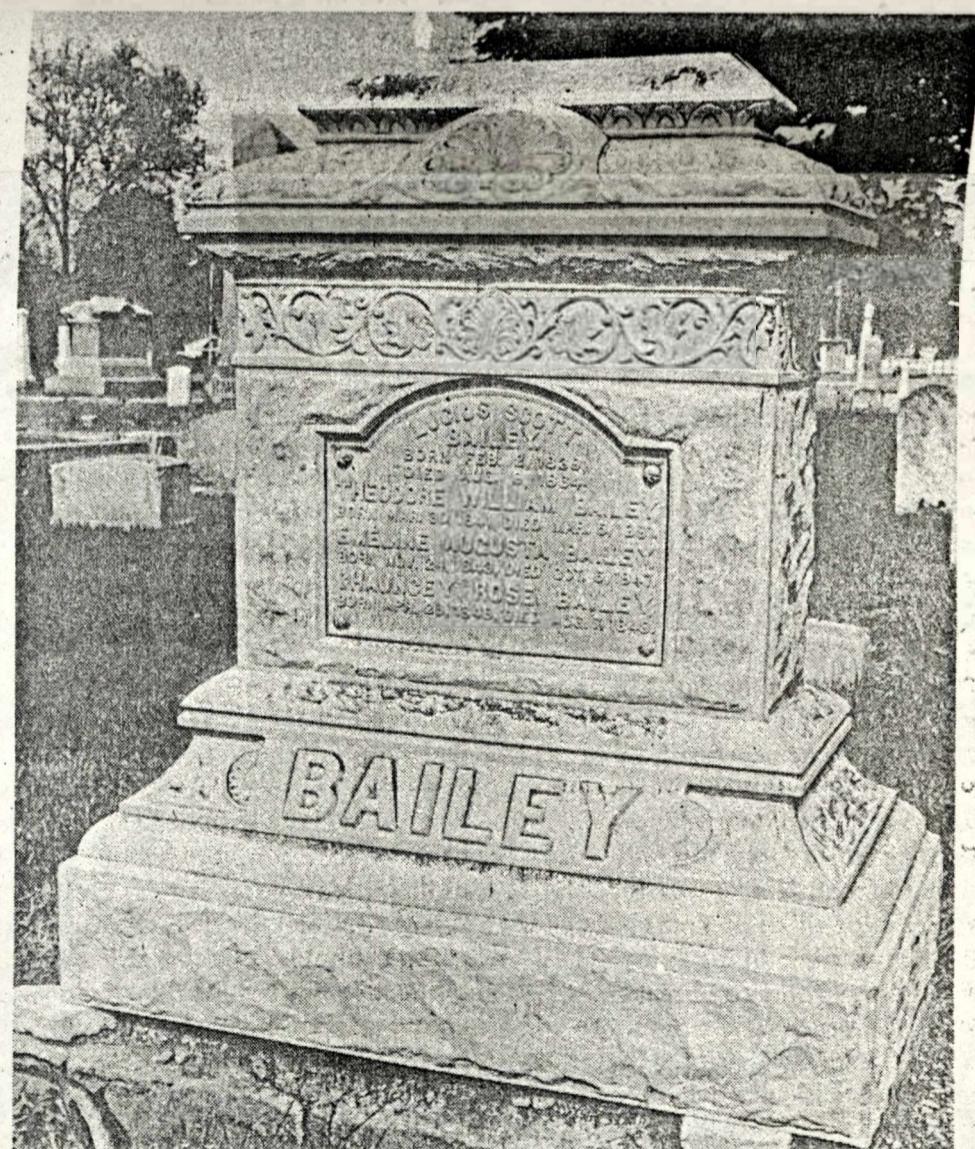
ment Club. His tombstone shows he died in 1888.

One of the most "lettered" men of his time, Dr. Ezra Read, lived at the northeast corner of Eighth and Ohio streets. He died in 1877, and his grave marker has "A.M., M.D. and LL.D." following his name.

An elaborate tall monument marks the graves of the family of Joseph Early (1770-1842). The Rev. M.A. Jewett who organized the society of the First Congregational Church in Terre Haute on Dec. 30, 1834, is buried with his wife, Mary. The society purchased the southeast corner of Sixth and Cherry for its first church in 1837.

Other well known persons buried in Woodlawn include Joseph Addison Foote, founder of the Hoerman Seed Co.; Colonel M.D. Topping, who died Aug. 30, 1862 at the battle of Richmond, Ky., during the Civil War; Callom Holeman Bailey, Daniel Barbour, Demas Deming, William B. Warren, Dr. John H. Thomas and Martha Jane Morehouse.

Within its protecting chain link fence, Woodlawn Cemetery holds much of the early history of this city. Few cemeteries can offer so much local history in such a small space.



The Bailey monument in Woodlawn Cemetery is metal and hollow. The cemetery is located at 1230 N. Third St.

TUES MAY 6 1984

# War records valuable for research

*Clark, Dorothy +**(Waco Stand)*

Community Affairs File

The American Bicentennial has come and gone, and there is still much to learn about the Revolutionary War and the men who fought in it. What did the soldier receive in the way of clothing, rations and salary?

A Revolutionary War soldier was supposed to receive daily one pound of fresh beef, one pound of salt fish, 12 ounces of pork, or 20 ounces of salt beef. Other daily rations included one pound of bread, flour, one pint of milk, and one quart of cider or spruce beer.

Cider meant fermented apple juice, hard cider in those days, and spruce beer was made from spruce leaves boiled in water, and sugared with molasses.

Each man was to receive one pint of Indian meal (cornmeal), six ounces of butter, and three pints of pease (early English spelling for dried peas).

During the Revolutionary War, it was estimated to cost 11 cents a day to feed a soldier; 33 cents for a field officer. General George Washington received an allowance of \$5.28 for his daily food and drink. Rank does have its privileges.

Due to a lack of vitamins A and C, wounds healed slowly. The deficient diet resulted in poor teeth and shorter lives. Salt was precious, often hard to obtain, and sugar was rarely seen except in wild honey. These could not be blamed as they are now for dietary problems.

## Historically speaking



Clark is Vigo County's official historian and formerly worked for The Terre Haute Tribune.

By Dorothy Clark  
Special to The Tribune-Star

Without refrigeration, meat was sun-dried into jerky or pickled in salt brine to keep it. Fresh fruit, as we know it, was unknown except by the wealthy. Most people ate berries in season, paw-paws, persimmons and wild grapes. Water then was purer than it is now, without chlorine or any other added chemical.

Anyone wanting more information about how their Revolutionary War ancestor lived, must search for his military service records to see what battles he might have taken part in, where his regiment was located during the war, and what his duties were. Did he ride a horse, march on foot, drive a wagon, serve as cook or orderly, was he wounded, or did he survive and receive bounty land or a pension?

The Revolutionary War was fought with a combination of Continental forces and units of colonial

militias. Massachusetts and Virginia conscripted for the war in 1777. Their example caused Congress to commend their conscriptions to the other colonies, but there was no federal draft law enacted.

The ancestor of that war might be found in the National Archives, in the state archives, or both. Few Revolutionary War pension records exist before 1800, but free land was promised the soldiers and their dependents in 1776, and many applications were filed.

One of this writer's Revolutionary War ancestors appeared in court in 1823 at the age of 64 years to apply for his pension according to the Acts of Congress of 1818 and 1820. He had served a three year enlistment in a Regiment of Artificers in the Connecticut Line and was discharged in Morristown, N. J.

The schedule he filed of his total property at that time was valued at \$47.13 in New York State. He swore that he owned one cow, eight sheep, two hogs, one ax, one pail, one pot-kettle, one teakettle, one spider, a five-pail kettle, one table, one stand, eight chairs, one shovel and tongs, nine cups and saucers, 12 plates, four bowls and two platters.

Also, one brown earthen chamber, two brown earthen plates, four milk pans, one sugar bowl, one milk cup, salt cellar, four tin pans, two stone pots, stone churn, an eight-quart stone jug, two small

jugs, a pint decanter, three wine glasses, three wooden bowls, two pine tubs, knives and forks for 12, six spoons, a looking glass, a buttress, pair pincers, shoeing hammer, hand hammer, one piece of chain, an auger, two illegible items, three or four old barrels, two pails, one lanthorn, 50 pounds pork, three bushels of wheat, one-half barrel pickles, eight pounds sugar, and five pounds butter.

In 1850 his eight living children went to court to receive his pension. He had died in 1832, his widow in 1841, and these children were all over 21 years of age. Before the veteran's death, he had been receiving \$144 per year. His first pension was \$8 per month in 1818. His widow never applied for her pension, but the grown children were to receive \$240 per year under the new law. Their father only received \$24 a year while he was in service.

The ex-soldier of the Revolution had to prove his military service and his eligibility for a pension. He also had to prove that he was "indigent" and needed assistance. He had to file his own statement, but also affidavits from other soldiers who served with him or knew of his service, along with his financial condition. It is from these papers that genealogical information may be gained about the ancestor and his family. They furnish his footprints, so to speak, and put the meat on the bones of the family chart.

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# Quiet art

Community Affairs File

## Cemeteries' restful nature doesn't have to be repellent

T'S JUN 24 1984

At a cemetery gate, turn in and park your car, walk along the drives, between the rows of tombstones, until you find a suitable bench or toppled stone to rest on. On a warm summer's day, there is no solitude to be found in a park, but one can always be sure of being alone in a corner of a cemetery.

The dead themselves seem to decree silence, while the restful atmosphere of the place and its very purpose seem repellent to most people. Very carefully and methodically one can assemble thoughts, think problems through to a conclusion, or just rest and let the mind wander or go blank in the peaceful setting.

Everyone has a hobby. One of mine is visiting old cemeteries to read the epitaphs. I've never yet tried the art of gravestone rubbing, but have noted some likely prospects for future enjoyment.

Tombstones ranged in price from a few dollars for a simple marker to hundreds of dollars for elaborately carved tall monuments. Family mobility, divorce and the growing popularity of cremation have changed the demand for family cemetery lots. Cemeteries restricted to flush markers date their popularity from World War II.

The earliest examples of American native sculpture are found in the graveyards — the grim effigies, the scythe-bearing skeletons, and the fire and brimstone skulls that adorn the tombstones. In the Midwest, these early carvings are few and far between, but the old epitaphs continued to be copied.

"Oh, noble stranger passing by,  
As You are now, so once was I.  
As I am now, one day you'll be,  
So be prepared to follow me."

It seems a stranger did pass by and took time to add the following:  
"To follow you, I'm not content,  
Until I know which way you went."

Clark, Dorothy +  
~~(Cemeteries etc.)~~

### Historically speaking



By Dorothy Clark  
Special to The Tribune-Star

Clark is Vigo County's official historian and formerly worked for The Terre Haute Tribune.

natural death:

"Wes Wescott,  
Hung in his youth,  
'Twas a sad mistake  
When found the truth."

Old cemeteries hold a strong appeal to many people. Charles Wallis wrote: "On old tombstones, we can find stories of ancient loves and shattered dreams, bitter commentaries on life, speculations and affirmations of immortality, and noble tributes to the accomplishment of man. On these stone silhouettes of bygone days we may read the hopes and despairs, the joys and frustrations of Everyman."

The art of gravestone carving in America flourished from around 1650 to shortly after the turn of the 19th century. Then, as the old-time stonecutters died off, designs became standardized, and mechanical means were employed in the cutting. It was the beginning of the end. After that the creative forces which had perpetuated gravestone carving slipped into rapid decline.

A few of the men (and women) had been trained as artists and sculptors. It was a way to eke out a living while trying to become established in the art world. Seldom were the stones inscribed with the name of the carver, and most carvers remain anonymous.

Down in the New Hope Cemetery on the road to the Dresser Power Plant, stands a unique gravestone for John Sheets and his wife, pioneer citizens of Vigo County. Carved to represent a tall and broken tree trunk, it is surmounted by an eagle, and bears on its surface a stalk of corn with ears and leaves, a vine winds round the trunk, a snake climbs along the vine, two squirrels frisk all oblivious to the snake approaching them, and a large tablet bears the inscription "John Sheets, died Jan. 5, 1881, aged 91 years, 11 days" and "Mary Sheets, his wife, died April 6, 1853, aged 61 years, 3 months, 6 days."

Relatives usually composed the original verses for their deceased unless there were explicit instruction to follow. For example:

"Death without warning  
Was as bold as briefe,  
When he kill'd two in one,  
A miller and a thiefe."

Evidently the family didn't mind that posterity would know the miller was a thief. Many epitaphs were humorous. Like this one for Anna Hopewell, 1829-48:

"Here lies the body  
Of young Anna,  
Done to death  
By a banana.  
It wasn't the fruit  
That laid her low,  
But the skin of the thing  
That made her go."

Relatives sometimes took a hard-boiled view of the late lamented.

Here is an original for a money-lender:

"Here lies old Twelve-and-a-half percent.

The more he had the less he spent.

The less he spent the more he craved.

Oh, Lord, can Ecobod be saved?"

This tombstone hinted of a not-so-

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Community Affairs File

*Clark, Dorothy and Historian*

# They made their mark in past Now cold stone marks forgotten remains

Ts JAN 22 1989

**Forgotten in some cases even by their descendants, only weathered tombstones remain to tell the brief history of the men and women who pioneered their way from the East and South to settle here in the Wabash Valley.**

As soon as the Vigo County commissioners received the promised money from the town proprietors as part consideration for the location of the county seat here in 1818, they planned the first courthouse.

An advertisement appeared that year in the Western Sun of Vincennes on April 11 asking for proposals for the building of a "court house and gaol" for Vigo County. The building was to be of brick and 55-foot square.

In time the contract was let to Brocklebank & Hovey. They received nearly \$6,000 in payments from June 1818 to January 1822, and an additional amount of \$4,000

## Historically speaking



Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark  
*Special to The Tribune-Star*

was spent until February 1828.

The junior partner, Elihu Hovey, fell from the roof of the building during construction and was killed by falling on a chisel which he was holding in his hand when he struck a stump in the newly-cut town square.

William Durham was paid near-

ly \$3,000 for building the brick walls; John M. Coleman over \$1,900 for constructing the foundation walls; and William Walker \$400 for the stone-window caps.

Of these five builders of our first courthouse, only the grave of William Walker (1790-1846) has been located. His wife, Susannah, died in 1870. They are buried in Gray Cemetery, Lost Creek Township.

In Woodlawn Cemetery rests Elijah Tillotson Jr. (1791-1857) and his wife, Sarah G. (1800-1869). His tombstone claims him as "First Mayor of the City of Terre Haute," when the truth is that he was mayor of the town before it was incorporated as a city. He was also an associate judge.

Another associate judge of the Circuit Court, Isaac Pointer (1783-1867) and his wife (1792-1837) are buried in Hull Cemetery, south of the city.

of town founders

of town founders

of town founders

Also buried here is Revolutionary War soldier Daniel Soesby (1759-1841) and his wife, Rachel, (1766-1844). His name is spelled various ways in the early records. Along with J. and G. Jordan, Soesby repaired the Honey Creek covered bridge at a cost of \$123.50.

Probate Judge Robert Hoggatt is probably buried in the Prairieton Cemetery with his wife Rachel, (1798-1891).

Another Probate Judge, James T. Moffatt, (1791-1861) lies beside his wife, Julia B., (1805-1864) in Woodlawn, along with Joseph S. Jenckes (1804-1888) and his wife, Isabella Mary Greene, (1804-1863).

James Farrington (1797-1869), early agent and treasurer of Vigo County, lies buried in Woodlawn with his wife, Harriet Ewing, (1807-1877).

The builders of the first covered bridge over Otter Creek were William Watkins (1772-1838) and

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William P. Dexter (?-1840). Watkins is buried with his wife, Lorena, (1786-1866) in the Markle Graveyard. Dexter is buried in Woodlawn.

In 1829 the courthouse needed a new roof. The commissioners employed Ezekiel Buxton to replace it for \$465.90. He is buried in Woodlawn beside his first wife, Betsey Ramage, and his second wife, Elizabeth.

Early surveyor of Vigo County and one-time lister John Burton (1792-1853) is buried in Woodlawn beside his wife, Catharine A. (1809-1855).

Samuel McQuilkin (1775-1849) was an early sheriff and owner of the Light Horse Tavern in Terre Haute. After he sold his tavern, he laid out the town of McQuilkinsville. This name proved to be too cumbersome, so the natives called it "Macksville" until it became West Terre Haute. He

and his wife, Mercy W., (1792-1848) are buried in Woodlawn.

The man appointed to lay out a system of roads for the county in 1819 was Elisha Bentley. He is probably buried in New Harmony Cemetery where his wife, Jane, (1777-1824) has a tombstone.

The founder of the Wabash Courier in 1832, Thomas Dowling (1806-1876) and his wife, Jane, (1811-1853) are buried in Woodlawn.

Old newspapers, court records and county histories tell us more about these forgotten founders. A stroll through the old graveyards to read tombstones reminds history-lovers of the contributions these early pioneers made to our community. Their descendants, if any remain in the area, have much to be proud of in the accomplishments of their ancestors.

# Early settlers

## Germans part of Wabash Valley's rich heritage

Ts FEB 23 1992

More than 20 years ago, a German-American Document and Research Center was established at the University of Kansas. Its purpose was to collect and preserve German-American literary and cultural material, particularly from the midwestern region of the United States.

Researchers in German-American studies have found that libraries, German-American clubs, religious organizations and individuals are frequently unable or unwilling to preserve and to house materials not of priority importance to their collections.

Lack of funds prevents cataloging and organizing their collections to make them accessible to scholars and researchers. At the same time, interest in German-American studies has increased steadily.

Recognizing the danger that many important German-American publications may be lost if steps are not taken, efforts are being made to gather these materials and provide adequate housing, cataloging and to make them accessible to researchers through the facilities of the Kenneth Spencer Research Library at the University of Kansas.

Contact them about donations.

### Historically speaking



By Dorothy J. Clark  
Special to The Tribune-Star

They try to pay packing and shipping expenses.

Germans were early immigrants to Terre Haute. The German Evangelical Lutheran congregation came into existence in 1846. A.H. Luken, a German Lutheran teacher, arrived in Terre Haute with 22 young people from East Frisia, the most northwestern part of the German empire.

They conducted services and, in 1848, together with a few Germans who had settled in town earlier, organized a congregation called United Lutheran and Reformed Congregation.

In 1858 the Lutherans separated themselves from this body and formed a congregation by

themselves, known as the German Evangelical Lutheran Congregation. Their church was located at the northwest corner of Fourth and Swan streets. Their parochial school housed 50-60 students who spoke only German.

As early as 1864, the Rev. Father Mari called a meeting of German Catholics to establish St. Benedict's Church, built and consecrated in 1865.

The Reformed German Church was organized here in October 1857, with a congregation of seven families.

In addition to one local German language newspaper, several other German papers were printed here for distribution to other cities and to subscribers all over the United States.

The Terre Haute Banner, a German language newspaper, was established Aug. 20, 1870, by Adolph Fabricius and Charles Lustig. John Kuppenheimer succeeded Fabricius when he withdrew from the paper in 1875. Kuppenheimer had established the Indiana Post, which was then consolidated with the Banner.

By March 1, 1876, the paper was purchased by P. Gfroerer, who at once issued a daily Republican

paper, which continued as a daily until Jan. 1, 1877, when it became a tri-weekly publication.

The weekly Banner had been started as a Republican paper April 1, 1876, by Gfroerer. The changes in the German papers were frequent, and, for a while, one man edited the papers for both parties.

The Terre Haute Journal, daily and weekly German newspaper, was founded in 1883, by J.E. Wolff. Republican in politics, it was a large daily and weekly, and was one of our prominent and family established institutions.

This was a tri-weekly until June 17, 1889, when it became daily and weekly. Until Wolff took charge, German papers here had a rather precarious existence.

With World War I and World War II fading into the past, German ancestry has "come out of the closet," so to speak, along with sauerkraut instead of "Liberty Cabbage."

Books have been written about German migrations, and records are becoming more readily available for family genealogists. Books about German-American names and how they changed over the years, may be helped a little by registrations at Ellis Island.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Community Affairs File

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# Gravestone epitaphs enlightening

\* Clark, Dorothy

A column on the subject of tombstone epitaphs always triggers much mail and telephone calls, and adds to my growing collection.

Inscriptions on gravestones sometimes tell more than the vital statistics of the deceased. For example:

*Some have children  
Some have none,  
Here lies the  
Mother of 21!*

Found in an old cemetery in the Deep South was this gem:

*Oh, be he dead  
And am he gone  
And is I left  
Here all alone.  
Oh, cruel fate  
Thou beest unkind  
To take he fore  
And leave I hind.*

The personality traits of the deceased can be learned from the epitaphs:

*Here snug in grave  
My wife doth lie.  
Now she's at rest,  
And so am I.*

Also, this unhappy husband got the last word:

*There lies my dear wife,  
A sad slattern and shrew;  
If I said I regretted her,  
I should lie too.*

Sometimes the stone cutter needed a dictionary:

*This little hero  
That lies here  
Was Conquered by  
The Diarrheer.*

Epitaphs of a kinder nature include:

*She always made home happy.*

TUES MAR 14 1993

## Historically speaking



By Dorothy J. Clark  
*Special to the Tribune-Star*

And:

*Here lies the wife  
Of Simon Stokes,  
Who lived and died  
Like other folks.*

Yet another version of the classic tombstone inscription found in graveyards all over the country is:

*Time was I stood  
Where thou doest now,  
And view'd the dead,  
As thou dost me;  
Ere long thou'l be  
As low as I  
And others stand  
And look on thee.*

Epitaphs probably originated from a longing for immortality. Their invention is attributed to the scholars of Linus, the Theban poet, who flourished about the 2,700th year of the world.

Unhappily slain, his scholars lamented the loss of their master in a particular kind of mournful verses, called Aelinum in his honor, and later Epitaphia, because they were recited and sung at burials, and engraved on sep-

ulchres.

Monuments and inscriptions form the link between the past, present and future. They are considered as tributes of surviving relatives and friends who wish to preserve the name from oblivion.

The professional epitaph, the practice of using the trade or profession of the deceased as a basis for rhyme, has completely disappeared, and can only be found in very old graveyards.

For example, this epitaph was found on a baker's tombstone:

*Here lies Dick,  
A baker by trade,  
Who was always  
In business praised;  
And here snug he lies,  
In his oven, 'tis said,  
In hopes that his bread  
May be raised.*

On the marble marker at the grave of a celebrated cook was found this terse epitaph:

*Peace to his hashes.*

This one explains the former occupation of the departed one:

*Here lies a man  
Who dyed of wool great store,  
One day he died himself,  
And dyed no more.*

An old bachelor commissioned the stone cutter to inscribe this epitaph on his tombstone:

*At threescore winter's end I died;*

*A cheerless being, sole and sade;*

*The nuptial knot I never tied,  
And wish my father never had.*

This widow was living with

her fourth husband when she ordered this inscription:

*This turf has drunk a widow's tear,  
Three of her husbands slumber here.*

This happy epitaph leaves good thoughts about the deceased:

*An honest fellow here is laid,  
His debts in full he always paid;*

*And, what's more strange,  
The neighbors tell us,  
He brought back borrow'd umbrellas.*

Even stone cutters received epitaphs:

*Here lies the body of Frank Raid,  
Parish clerk, a gravestone cutter;*

*And this is writ to let you know,  
What Frank for others used to do,*

*Is now for Frank done by another.*

Copied from a western tombstone was this curious epitaph:

*Here lies the body of Jeems Himbrick  
Who was accidentally shot on the*

*Bank of the Pacus River by a young man.*

*He was accidentally shot with one of*

*The large Colt revolvers with no stopper*

*For the cock to rest on. It was one*

*Of the old-fashion kind,  
Brass-mounted, and of such is  
The kingdom of Heaven.*

## Valley heritage

TS JUN 06 1993

# Old cemeteries sometimes overlooked

Those of us who enjoy meandering through old cemeteries (and we know who we are) can appreciate history more than those who avoid all the thoughts of death that must necessarily go along with generations of ancestors.

It's doubly sad when there are no relatives to attend the funeral. Chances are the family tree has been effectively pruned by childless marriages, chronic spinsterism, service in this country's many wars, epidemic disease without wonder drugs, or any number of causes of death until the last twig on the family tree was buried.

So many cemeteries are full. There have been no recent burials, maybe since 1900. Others may seem uncrowded, but have suffered losses of tombstones for whatever reason. Old cemeteries are very perishable, and disappear if the landowner has no reverence or respect for past generations.

The oldest tombstones were very plain. The engraving was terse and explicit. It was the Victorian age that developed the ornate carvings, the cherubs and angels, the beautiful poetic inscriptions.

When one studies the subject, it becomes a fascinating hobby to "collect" all the different carvings found in the marble-cutter's design books. The family had their choice of many designs, or

### Historically speaking



By Dorothy J. Clark  
Special to The Tribune-Star

could order whatever they might feel would fit the situation.

Knowing my interest in collecting unusual epitaphs, one reader sent in this unusual one: "If I was so soon done for, I wonder why I was begun for," found on a tiny marker on a child's grave.

Two miles northwest of Clay City is Maple Grove Cemetery. The first person buried there was Dora Spellbring White, wife of Paris White. Her tombstone is inscribed "Died July 5, 1905." It was remarked in the community how hard it must have been for the husband to leave his wife totally alone, the only person then in the entire cemetery that had been recently platted and opened for burial a short time before.

Tombstones can be misleading in historical research. A stranger to the community would believe the first burial in

Maple Grove would have been that of "Atchison Binder, 1902-1904," but they would be wrong.

After research it was learned that the child was Ethison Bender, the cause of death was diphtheria, and he was buried first in the Greenwell Cemetery. The remains were later moved to Maple Grove and buried on the Jesse Allee plot where it now rests in the northeast corner of the graveyard. This explains why his tombstone of 1904 predates the actual first burial in 1905.

There are records on more than 120 cemeteries, private burial grounds, churchyards and public graveyards in Vigo County. Many have been completely plowed over, and no trace can be found.

Some are lost when fences are destroyed so grazing stock can rub against the old tombstones and knock them down. Blocks of salt are purposely placed among the old stones to entice the cattle.

The next step finds the farmer dragging the fallen monuments to some nearby fence corner or gully that needs filling. The final step is the plowing of the ground, completely obliterating all traces of pioneer burials.

Someone has to care before cemeteries can be protected and preserved.

A poem published by the

"Prairie Press" more than 25 years ago tells the fate of old graveyards:

*Old neighbors of my people  
sleep beneath this knoll  
Who hungered in their bones  
for earth the owner owns,  
the ample fields plowed over  
is their warm bed cover.  
The church steeple is down  
and vines grow up again,  
worship has moved to town  
and left this plot to men,  
Markers along the fence  
make no more pretense  
to identify the claims  
asserted once by names.  
Neat in stacks are pressed  
the crumbling half-blind  
stones,  
since by land possessed  
no longer need old bones  
be honored row by row.  
The farmer with his plow  
unroofs each sunken mound  
As if folks lying there  
had asked for rain and air.  
Indentured to the ground  
they worked so hard to keep  
When underneath their boots  
they serve now in their sleep.  
There through oats and clover  
the winds go nosing over  
boundaries the birds neglect,  
where grasses genuflect  
The owners reap their faith  
in a harvest of bones bequeath,  
And chosen by the roots  
they make their presence seen  
in the meadows darker green.*

## Valley heritage

# Tracing ancestors fascinating pastime

Descended from an interesting Vigo County pioneer ancestry, Mary E. Harvey, born 1896, compiled her family tree when she was a retired school teacher.

Four generations back, her ancestor, George Harvey, a linen and woolen manufacturer (weaver) was born in Glasgow, Scotland. He married a Miss McFadden, and their fifth son, George Harvey, was born on Christmas Day 1800 in Dublin, Ireland. He died in 1852 in Clay County, Ind.

This George Harvey was an artist who came to America in 1821, locating in Maysville, Ky. From here he moved to Sharpsburg, Ky., and invested in land, slaves and the manufacture of linseed oil.

His marriage in 1826 to Mary Busby resulted in 10 children: James (killed in an accident age 10); Lucretia; Mehitabel; William and John (both carpenters); Thomas, a farmer; Mary, a teacher until she married; Westley, a carpenter; George, a farmer; and James B., a carpenter.

William Harvey, second son of George and Mary (Busby) Harvey, was a carpenter, millwright, cabinet maker and undertaker. He made wagon wheels and coffins for many of his neighbors at his home in Prairieton.

In 1855 he married Mary Lane, daughter of William Lane, driver of a stage freighter from Terre Haute to St. Louis.

### Historically speaking



By Dorothy J. Clark  
Special to The Tribune-Star

William and Mary (Lane) Harvey had six children: Leonard (1857-1906) a farmer; Edward (1859-1947), a carpenter; Charles (1861-1894); Hal (1863-1894); Ezra; and Alice, who married a Simmons. Both parents died of typhoid fever in their 40s.

Edward Harvey, second son of William and Mary (Lane) Harvey, married Eliza J. Ashmore in 1894. She was the daughter of Richard Berry Ashmore, a farmer of another pioneer family. Their only daughter was the compiler of this family tree.

On her mother's side of the family, she was descended from John Farr who was born in 1791 in Pennsylvania. His father, also John Farr, fought in the American Revolution with Anthony Wayne. His mother was Lucinda Hoppwood, an English artist who did the family portraits in crayon and oils.

John Farr married Elizabeth

O'Brien (1798-1835) whose father, Dennis O'Brien, also fought in the Revolutionary War and was wounded seven times in the Battle of Brandywine. John and Elizabeth (O'Brien) Farr had 10 children, five boys and five girls. He died in 1841.

Most of the family are buried in the old Black Cemetery. One of the sons went to California in the 1849 Gold Rush, and is buried near Mount Shasta. One son, Jacob Farr, was a wagon maker.

Jehu Farr, son of John and Elizabeth, was born in Fayette County, Pa., in 1815. He married Eliza A. Sturgis who was born Jan. 19, 1820, at Fort Harrison in Vigo County, Ind., the daughter of Major Sturgis stationed at the fort.

Jehu and Eliza A. (Sturgis) Farr had 11 children: Eleanor (1838-1911); John M., born 1840 and died in infancy; Frances (1842-1912); Mary Jane "Molly," born 1844, married a Phillips; Sarah Elizabeth (1846-1910), married Richard Berry Ashmore; Lucinda born 1850; William (1853-1922), farmer, policeman, motorman; Melissa born 1855; John M. (1857-1858); and Amanda, born 1861, married Broadhurst. Her son, Charles Broadhurst, had a letter written by Eleanor (O'Brien) Farr to her grandson.

The Richard Berry Ashmore mentioned above who married Sarah E. Farr, was the son of

Zeno Ashmore who fought in the Blackhawk War, and his wife, Mary Armstrong. Zeno was a pioneer farmer.

Richard B. and Sarah E. (Farr) Ashmore had 12 children: Eliza Jane (1866); Emma (1868); James H., died young; Lafayette, died young; Francis Miller (1872); Luella (1874); Mary Elizabeth, died young; Pearl Alice (1878); Charles Russell, died young; Jehu F. (1881), farmer and mechanic; Nellie Effie (1884); and Harriet (1887), housewife and saleswoman.

The oldest of the 12 children, Eliza Jane Ashmore, was always called "Lida." She married Edward Harvey in 1894. They had one daughter, Mary Elizabeth Harvey in 1896.

Lida Harvey was a well-known downtown dressmaker in the Beach Block, and one of the first tenants in the new Chanticleer Building on North Sixth Street. She retired at the age of 76 years.

All Miss Mary E. Harvey's teaching was done in Vigo County, and she retired in 1958. She proudly counted among her ancestors Revolutionary War soldiers, artists, Forty-Niners, farmers, carpenters, wheelwrights, undertakers, coffin-makers, cabinet makers, millwrights and weavers, hardy pioneers all.

This is why so many people are taking an interest in their ancestors and studying genealogy these days.

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Valley heritage (14) \* Clark, Dorothy (D) ~~Completed~~

# Tombstones reveal history

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A woman whose maiden name was Anderson was told her grandfather took that name because he was literally Ander's son! Her problem was confusion about name spelling and child-bearing. The answer to her problem was found in a village cemetery dating back 200 years in eastern Pennsylvania.

The information pieced together was not only about the grandfather whose tall granite marker told of his affluence and importance, but about the women in his life. The size of their tombstones, and the position of the markers in relation to his, told the story.

One tombstone solved the question of whether or not there were two wives named Elizabeth. The ancestor had a wife named Elizabeth who died in childbirth. Just two months later, according to the common headstone, he married another woman named Elisa Beth who became pregnant immediately, and lost her life when the baby was born prematurely.

Within the same year this man had two babies born seven months apart, and had buried two wives named Elizabeth. The premature child of the second wife was raised by yet another wife name Eliza.

Another beginning family ge-

## Historically speaking



Clark retired as the Tribune-Star's women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column since 1956. She is Vigo County historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark  
*Special to the Tribune-Star*

nealogist was directed to a small graveyard near Tyler, Texas. Here he found his great-great-grandparents, Enoch C. and Martha A. Jones. Born in 1816, he came to Texas from Arkansas with his parents in 1839.

With this information the search continued back to when the first of his line of Joneses came to American in the 1700s. At that time their names was spelled Ap Jones.

Another plot of Jones was found in a nearby cemetery. Here the searcher found Oscar, he found his great-great-grandparents Enoch and Martha's son Oscar (1854-1914). This was the great-grandfather and wife, Dorinda Jones.

It's a curious feeling to see, for the first time, the tombstones

of one's ancestors, to walk down the streets and see the old buildings where they traded, to visit the house where they lived.

Following the trail of ancestors is a fascinating hobby. You might want to get out your own maps. Too often we hear someone say, "I really don't care about so and so's family tree." They don't care about yours either, but the point is to pique your interest in searching for your own roots. You might find something more interesting than you hoped.

With thousands of headstones falling into disrepair and dozens of tiny private cemeteries being bulldozed for development, history lovers and genealogists are redoubling efforts to save what they see as a valuable part of the state, county and local history.

Cemeteries are important research tools. Before the turn of the century, towns were not required by law to keep birth, death and burial records, so a headstone is sometimes all there is.

The location of cemeteries gave information on the demographics of early towns. Funds for restoring old cemeteries are limited, but even a small amount can help. Including the cost of the special epoxy used to glue together broken head-

stones, a 20-grave cemetery was restored for about \$120.

To those who see no point in restoring old cemeteries, here's a verse found on an old headstone:

"Here life and all its pleasures end

here wander, read and weep  
soon each succeeds his fallen friend,

and in the same cold bed must sleep."

This cheerful epitaph, composed by Abraham Lincoln for a Kickapoo Indian, embodies the brotherliness, and comradeship that formed the basis for his religious faith; the broad sympathy for his fellow men which was his leading characteristics throughout his life. The rogue in him peeps through in the irony which can not be suppressed even on a tombstone.

Lincoln believed there should be neither master nor slave, and his friends believed that despite the religious tenor of some of his speeches, Lincoln was not a Christian in the orthodox sense of the term. In New Salem, he was spoken of as an infidel, and atheist, a fatalist, in spite of his fondness for quoting the Bible. At a later date, he declared that his doubts became intensified when Ann Rutledge died.

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Community Affairs File

# Carved in stone

## Tombstone orders tell much about family history

I.S JAN 27 1991

Taken at random from the pages of an old ledger are a few tombstone orders to show the wealth of genealogical information to be found in the entire collection.

The leather-bound book was given to the museum by Helen Sawyer. She believed it had been owned originally by the Swafford family. Over the years, the book had been used for several purposes. The earliest entries were made in reference to steamboat enterprises on the Wabash River. Later entries refer to debits and credits of a local businessman.

Most interesting of all are the tombstone orders from October 1865 to the fall of 1866. They include genealogical information adding much knowledge of families living in the Wabash Valley a century prior to their entries.

Marble monuments and grave markers were cut, inscriptions chiseled, delivered in a horse and wagon sometimes many miles away, and set up in cemeteries from Clay County, east; to Clark County, Ill., west; from Parke and Vermillion counties, north; to Sullivan County, south.

Two stone cutters named Bishop and Pratt were credited with lettering the monuments. "Darl-

### Historically speaking



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ings Design Book" was used to select styles, carving, lettering, verses, emblems, etc. The choices were referred to by number.

Both American and Italian marble were used, but the latter was much more expensive. Limestone was used in the less-costly stones and in bases for marble monuments.

According to the Terre Haute City Directory (1860-61) there were three marble dealers located here: Grace Martin, on Ohio between First and Second streets; J.M. Walter at 18 S. Fourth St.; and Lamoreux's marble yard (no address given).

★Clark, Dorothy

City directories for 1865-66 are very scarce, unfortunately, so marble dealers of the exact time period of the tombstone orders are unknown. The winding up of the Civil War was not the time for the mere printing of books.

By 1868-69, two more marble yards were listed: Walter, Eppinghousen & Co., and Charles E. and H. Arnold on South Fourth Street between Main and Ohio streets.

Nowhere could any mention of the stone cutters Bishop and Pratt be found in the directories. It is hoped that a reader may be able to supply their exact location and names of their workers.

John Carr ordered a tombstone to be delivered to the Second Prairie Creek Graveyard. Its inscription was to read: "M.C. Carr, Born April 18th, 1816; Died May 4th, 1860; Aged 44 y 16 dys."

Mrs. James Drake ordered this inscription: "In memory of James Drake, Born May 9th, 1778; Died June 12th, 1865; Aged 87 yrs 1 m 3 dys."

For his young wife, F.M. Brown, Livingston, Clark Co., Ill., ordered a tombstone inscribed: "Frances E. Brown, wife of F.M. Brown, Died

Oct. 2nd, 1865, Aged 17 yrs 27 dys."

Mrs. Josiah Adams and Dr. Goodwin ordered identical stones complete with carved flags for their Civil War dead. One was for 22-year-old Josiah Adams who died at Greenville, Ala. The other was for Clarke B. Goodwin, aged 25 years, who died at Nashville, Tenn.

These stones were delivered to the Jack Oak Graveyard, Lamot Prairie, between Hutsonville and Palestine, Ill.

So many small children died 125 years ago. The stone cutter was called on frequently to carve: "We all do weep and mourn when from the Mother's fold one little Lamb is gone."

Another favorite inscription was: "This lovely bud, so young and fair, Is gone to Heaven, to blossom there."

Surprisingly enough, only one order was included in this collection for the most common inscription of all, the one found in nearly every early graveyard:

"Remember friends as you pass by

As you are now, so once was I  
As I am now, so you must be  
Prepare for death and follow me."

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